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* SHANNON	4189	F. Cole	2nd April.
B.M.L. ORIENTAL	5284	F. H. Seymour	9th ,,
* CLYDE	4199	E.H. Gordon	16th ,,
B.M.L. CARTHAGE	5287	J. R. Lendon	23rd ,,
* SHANNON	4189	F. Cole	30th ,,
B.M.L. EGYPT	8000	R. F. Briscoe	7th May.
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B.M.L. CALEDONIA	7558	W. B. Andrews.	4th June.
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GISELA	L. Brelich	4,253	12th May 1898.

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THIS DAY, THURSDAY, the 17th instant, at 3 p.m Messrs. MEHRJEE JOHNSTON & Co. will sell by Public Auction, at the East India Roller Flour Mills, Falkland Road, by order of the Proprietors of the E. I. R. Flour Mills, and on account and at the risk of Messrs. M. Pallonjee Cowasjee & Co., 47 bags of sojee flour in convenient lots to suit buyers.

SALE OF VALUABLE LANDED PROPERTY AT 2ND COOPER STREET, BHENDY BAZAAR.

Messrs. MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON and Co. will sell by Public Auction THIS DAY, THURSDAY, the 17th, inst., at 4 p.m., on the premises, by order of the Executors of the mortgagee, and on account and the risk of the mortgagor, Shaik Mahomed bin Shaik Karim Gowlee, by virtue of the power of sale given to the mortgagee in an indenture of mortgage, dated the 25th April, 1895, the following property:—

All that piece or parcel of land, admeasuring about two hundred and seventeen and one-ninth square yards according to the Collector's Records, but by an actual admeasurement it is about one hundred and seventy-five and two-third square yards, and assessed by the Collector of Land Revenue under old No. 2236, new No. 9585, old Survey No. 1184, and new survey No. 4545, together with the messuage, tenement, or dwelling-house, and assessed by the Bombay Municipality under Ward No. 793, and street Nos. 24, and 25, and 26, which all premises are situate in Bombay, on the north side of 2nd Cooper Street, Bhendy Bazaar, in the registration subdistrict of Bombay, and are bounded on the east by the property of Abdoola Hasonally, on the west by the property of Esmail Habbib, on the north by an open stone-paved channel and beyond it by the property of Bohra Mahomed Allee, and on the south by the said 2nd Cooper Street, and were formerly and are now in the occupation of the said mortgagor and his tenants.

For further particulars and conditions of sale apply to Cursetjee D. Shroff, Esq., Solicitor to the said Executors, at his office, No. 13, Hornby Row, Fort, or to the undersigned.

By order of the Municipal Commissioner for the City of Bombay, Messrs. MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON and Co. will sell by Public Auction at the Arthur Crawford Markets, on TUESDAY, the 22nd instant, at 11 a.m., the right of collecting fair ground and feeding fees from cattle-dealers, butchers, and all others at the Bombay Municipal Slaughter-Houses, Bandora, for 12 months, from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899, and fees in the Fort Market, Arthur Crawford Beef Market, Arthur Crawford Fish and Mutton Markets, Erskine Road Fish Market, Foras Road Fish Market, Colaba Fish Market, and Poddar Market, Mazagon, from fresh and salt fish-sellers, &c., who sit on the floor or other places not numbered, either line or stall under the jurisdiction of the markets, for 12 months, from 1st April, 1898, to 31st March, 1899.

For particulars and conditions of these sales, respectively, apply at the Municipal Commissioner's Office, Fort, or at the office of the Superintendent of Markets, Arthur Crawford Markets, or to the undersigned. The Municipal Commissioner does not bind himself to accept the highest or any offer.

MEHRJEE, JOHNSTON & Co.,
Bombay, 17th March, 1898.

NOTICES.

THE ASSOCIATED EXCHANGE BANKS.

THE ASSOCIATED EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED on MONDAY, the 21st March, 1898, a Public Holiday under the "Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881."

NATIONAL BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED.
NOTICE.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Bank will be CLOSED from the 18th to the 25th instant, both dates inclusive.

By Order of the Board,
H. CHALMERS,
Manager.

ompay, 12th March, 1898.

NOTICE.
WESTERN INDIA TURF CLUB.

THE HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING will be held at Sirdar Mansions, Apollo Bunder, at 5-45 P.M., on FRIDAY, 18th March, 1898.

BUSINESS:—

1. To pass the accounts for the past year.
2. To Elect Stewards for the Season, 1898-99.
3. To discuss any other business which may be brought forward.

CECIL GRAY,
Secretary, W. I. T. C.

Bombay, 5th March, 1898.

BANK OF BOMBAY.
SAVINGS BANK.

THE BANK receives DEPOSITS on the following terms:—

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Interest is allowed at the rate of two per cent. per annum on the minimum monthly balance not exceeding Rs. 5,000.

Copies of the Rules can be obtained on application at the Bank.

JAS. H. SLEIGH,
Secretary and Treasurer.

Bombay, 25th February, 1897.

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"Not all books on cosmic symbolism have so clearly defined an object as this, Mr. O'Neill, who seems to have the mythologies of all nations at his fingers' ends, actives to show that in almost all rites, institutions, legends, or monuments, we have reminiscences of a 'heaven's-worship of the very remotest and most faded antiquity,' beside which the solar-worship of other theorists is a thing of yesterday.'—The "Na, tional Observer," May 5, 1894.

John O'Neill's "Night of the Gods"—"M. O'Neill a mis comme epilogue a celluxueux volume un passage de Georges Dandin, de Moliere—Lubin: 'Morgue voila une sotte nuit. d'etre si noir que celui Je voudrois bien savoir Monsieur, vous qui etes savant, pourquoi il ne fait point jour la nuit—Clitandre: 'C'est une grande question, et qui est difficile. Tu est curieux, Lubin—Lubin: 'Oui, si j'avois etudie, j'aurois ete songer a des choses ou on n'a jamais songe.

"M. O'Neill a ete hante par le meme reve que Lubin, ma's il a sur lui l'avantage d'avoir beaucoup etudie, beaucoup lu et d'avoir une riche imagination. . . . Si M. O'Neill ne dissipe pas la nuit des origines de la vie religieuse de l'humanite, il fait jaillir a mainte reprises du choc des elements qu'il a assemblies, des eclairs qui ouvrent un instant des perspectives interessantes et nouvelles sur le chaos primitif."—"Revue de l'Histoire des Religions, Janvier—Fevrier, 95.

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Bombay, 20th July 1897.

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BOMBAY.

TO-DAY.

Sun rises, 6h, 7m. Sun sets, 6h. 10m. High water, 6-23m., 8-6s. Low water, 1-20m., 0-45s.
Bombay Foxhounds meet, Santa Cruz.
B. V. R., Commandant's parade, morning.
Bombay Art Exhibition, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Royal Bombay Yacht Club, Pomflet Class race, 4-30 p.m.
B. B. R. A. Society's meeting, 5-30 p.m.
Bible Society and Tract Society, annual meeting, Y. M. C. A. Rooms, 5-30 p.m.
J. N. Petit Fort Reading Room and Library, 5-30 p.m.

POLO.—There will be a game, this afternoon, at 5 o'clock, sharp.

FARCY.—A chestnut Arab horse, belonging to Pestonji Shapurji Mistri, of Khetwady Back Road, was found suffering from farcy, and destroyed, on the 12th instant.

B. B. R. A. [SOCIETY.—A meeting of the society will be held, at 5-30, this evening, when Mr. A. M. T. Jackson will read a paper on "A New Chalukya Copper-plate from Sanjan." His Excellency the Governor, patron of the society, is expected to be present at the meeting.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.—The joint annual meeting of the Bombay Auxiliary Bible Society and the Bombay Tract and Book Society will be held, this evening, in the Y. M. C. A. Rooms, Apollo Bunder. The chair will be taken by the Hon'ble Mr. A. Wingate, at 5-30.

ALLEGED ROBBERY BY A SERVANT.—Kaiserichund Vadarchund, a hoondi broker, residing on the ourth floor of a house at Mombadavie Tank Road, has reported to the police that during his absence from home, at midday, on Tuesday, his servant, named Boodak, took the key from a neighbour, with whom it had been kept, and after breaking open a locked wooden box, made off with two currency notes for Rs. 1,000 each and eleven currency notes for Rs. 10 each. A vigorous search is being made for the absconding servant.

FOUND DROWNED IN A MILL TANK.—About half-past 7 o'clock, yesterday morning, a police lance-naik, while going on his round along the Parel Road, noticed the dead body of a human being floating on the surface of the water in the warm-water tank attached to the Dinshaw Petit Mills at Parel. The sepoy informed Inspector Okeeffe, who had the body removed out of the tank. The body, which was much decomposed, appeared to be that of a Purdasi of the labouring class, aged about forty years. It was dressed in a bundee and dhotur. Information was circulated, but no one came forward to identify the body. Mr. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday at the mills, when the jury brought in an open verdict.

FATALLY GORED BY A BULLOCK.—Mr. Allan F. Turner, the coroner, held an inquiry, yesterday, at the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, regarding the death of a Mahomedan lad, named Shaik Mohideen Shaik Gussoo, aged twelve years, residing with his mother at Victoria Bunder. The deceased and his mother were mill-hands employed in the Colaba Land and Mill Company. On the afternoon of the 12th instant, the deceased was beating a bullock, belonging to one Dewsing, along the Victoria Bunder, when the latter attempted to mount the bullock, with the result that the animal became restive and gored the deceased on the abdomen, inflicting a bleeding wound. He was taken home, where some household remedies were tried, but with no good effect. He was on the following morning conveyed to the Goculdas Tejpal Hospital, where it was discovered that peritonitis had set in. The lad was admitted into the hospital and kept under treatment, but his condition showed no signs of improvement, and he died at 5 o'clock yesterday morning. A verdict of accidental death was recorded.

SUIT FOR THE RECOVERY OF WAGES.

SMALL CAUSES COURT.

RATANJEE FAKIRJEE DAROOWALLA vs. SAMUEL FITZE AND CO.

THIS was an appeal from the decision of Mr. B. E. Mody, acting Fourth Judge, reported in our issue of the 15th of February last, in which the plaintiff, who was an insurance canvasser, sued to recover from the defendants the sum of rupees 200, being the amount of wages due for four months, at Rs. 50 per month. The lower Court found for the plaintiff with costs, and against the decree the defendants appealed. Mr. Smetham, of Messrs. Smetham, Bland, and Noble, appeared for the appellants, and Mr. Godhino, pleader, for the respondent.

His Honor the Chief Judge in delivering the judgment of the full Court, reversing the decree of the lower Court with costs, said: The two points for decision are (1) whether Mr. Fearn had authority to engage the plaintiff; and (2) whether Mr. Banyard is estopped by his conduct from repudiating such appointment. It appears to us that the evidence does not show that Mr. Fearn was ever appointed the general agent of the defendants' firm. The directions given to him were explicit that he was to carry on the business communicating with Mr. Banyard on all important matters. If any further proof was required that he was not authorized to engage the plaintiff on a salary, we have Mr. Banyard's letters to him of the 19th July and 30th August, wherein he is expressly told to engage canvassers on commission only. These words being underlined—anything more explicit it is impossible to imagine, and the facts take the case out of sec 188 of the Contract Act relied on by the plaintiff's pleader, and it cannot therefore be said that Mr. Fearn had authority to engage the plaintiff on a salary. As to whether Mr. Banyard by his conduct must be taken to have ratified the appointment, there seems no doubt that he did nothing that can be so construed. The plaintiff does not suggest that he told him of the appointment until the beginning of December, and the first reliable evidence we have of such communication is his letter to the defendants of the 15th December. To this Mr. Banyard replied the same day, repudiating the appointment. The plaintiff's pleader says that Mr. Banyard ought to have known of the appointment as the plaintiff's name appeared on certain proposals. Even if this was so, Mr. Banyard would not know he was a salaried canvasser. Further, Mr. Fearn never communicated the fact of plaintiff's appointment to Mr. Banyard as he was bound to do under the direction given to him. This being so, we think the decision of the lower Court must be reversed. Order—rule absolute—suit dismissed with Rs. 30 professional costs.

INSOLVENT DEBTORS' COURT.

THE Hon. Mr. Justice Strachey presided at a sitting of the court, yesterday.

RE JAIPAL SEJPAL.

Mr. Manker, on behalf of the insolvent, moved that the matter should stand over till the 15th June next, on the grounds stated in a medical certificate. Mr. Starling, for an opposing creditor, consented, and the matter was accordingly postponed till the 15th June next.

RE EDULJEE COWASJEE DALAL.

Mr. Lowndes, instructed by Messrs, Craigie, Lynch, and Owen, for the Society Mercantile de Paris, moved, under section 30, for the examination of the insolvent and one Rustomjee Cawasjee Patel. The Society, it was stated, were creditors of the insolvent for Rs. 4,595; but the insolvent had not deposited certain books relating to his liquor-shop business. His lordship granted the application, the examination being fixed a fortnight hence.

RE ALFRED GEORGE WARBURTON.

Mr. M. Murzban, for the insolvent, applied for the usual rule *nisi* for a discharge, which his lordship granted.

RE MOTABHOY EDULJEE.

Mr. Kothare, for the insolvent, applied for an extension of the interim order for two months and for leave to serve notices. His lordship granted the application.

RE MADHAVJEE CALLIDAS.

Mr. Manker, on behalf of the insolvent, applied for two months' extension of the interim order, which was granted.

RE CALLIDAS BHAGWANDAS.

Mr. Kothare, for the insolvent, applied for the usual rule *nisi* for a discharge, which was granted.

ROYAL BOMBAY YACHT CLUB.

TO-DAY.

Pamflet Class Race. Start at 4-30 p.m.

Boat's name.	Entered by
Jangil Billi	Mr E Comber.
Red Rose	Mr C E Palmer
Astra	Surg Lieut-Col H W Boyd,
Black Diamond	Commander G S Hewett
Elsie	Mr L J W Worgan

Course No. 13, viz., from Committee vessel round Middle Ground Buoy, leaving it to starboard round Markboat with R flag at South Troopship Buoy, leaving it to starboard, and thence to Committee vessel. (Twice round). Length of course 3·8 miles.

The following races have been arranged for Saturday next, 19th instant.

Challenge Cup Race, to start at 3-0 p.m. Course No 1 (twice round).

Yachts' Handicap Race over the same course and in conjunction with the Challenge Cup Race open to all yachts on the Club list, including those competing for the Challenge Cup start at 3-0 pm.

Tomtit Class Race, to start at 3-30 p.m. Course No 1. There will be no race for Ships' Boats.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE Amir of Kabul recently, sent a firman to the Haddah Mullah, in which it is believed his Highness expiessed himself strongly regarding the mischief done by the Mullah in inciting the tribesmen to rise against the British Government. This letter contained a suggestion that Najim-ud-din should proceed on a pilgrimage to Mecca. His answer was that he was too weak to undertake the journeyt at present, but would notify the time when he felt equal to making the haj. He apparently expects the Amir to pay all his expenses.

DESPITE the fact that the rumour is not credited in Chitral, there really seems no doubt now that the Sipah Salar Ghulam Hyder Khan, Charkhi, is dead. Reports from Jellalabad state that a new General is shortly expected there to take over the command of the Amir's forces in that district and Kafiristan.

IT is rumoured that Sirdar Abbas Khan, a nephew of Dost Mahomed, has fled from Cabul, where he has been living since the Amir's accession. This man has never figured prominently in Afghan politics, and has no following. Curiously enough he is said to have made for Jarobi, where the Haddah Mullah used to have his headquarters. He is an old man, and can scarcely have any intention of intriguing against the Amir.

MORE Zakka Khel refugees in Afghanistan have come in to Jamrud, all professing a desire to submit, but pleading for time in order to comply with the Government terms. The Maliks Wali Mahomed and Khan are still interfering and it is believed they were at the bottom of the recent affair at Barkai, when a band of Afridis fired on a picquet. This incident has had no effect on the negotiations with the tribesmen.

THE Rev. R. P. Burnett arrived in Madras last Thursday from Secunderabad, and took charge of the Chaplaincy of North Black Town from the Rev. H. C. Parker, who has been in charge of both the North and South Black Town Chaplaincies ever since the departure to England of the Rev. Dr. Brandon and the Rev. W. Scott. Mr. Parker will continue in charge of the South Black Town Chaplaincy until next month when he will proceed to Wellington, on being relieved by the Rev. E. Gibson.

LIEUTENANT W. L. S. CHURCHILL, 4th Queen's Own Hussars, has been appointed Orderly Officer to Sir William Lockhart, and leaves Bangalore immediately for Peshawar on field service. Lieutenant Churchill went through the recent Malakand and Mohmand campaigns with the 31st Punjab Infantry, to which he was attached for duty.

IT is announced that the Bishop of Calcutta is about to resign his see on account of failing health—news which will be received with genuine regret all over India.

MR. REYNONDS, Director-General of Telegraphs, leaves Calcutta on the 24th instant for a tour of inspection in Assam: afterwards visiting the Punjab and arriving in Simla about the middle of April.

AT the annual meeting of the Calcutta Turf Club next week a proposition will be made to raise the total value of the Viceroy's Cup to Rs. 20,000, of which 16,000, or more than £1,000 sterling, will go to the winner. The proposal is an excellent one in every way.

IT is remarkable that though famine and pestilence were abroad on the land for some months of the year, the birth-rate of the native population in the Bombay Presidency was considerably higher than the death-rate in 1896. The total number of native births was 692,000, while the number of deaths came to slightly short of 600,000. The birth-rate was roughly 38 per mille, while the death-rate was 32 per mille—both birth and death-rates being much in excess of the average. The European and Eurasian birth-rate was about 16 per mille, and the death rate slightly higher.

THE new Post Office Act, which will be passed next week, will come into operation on July 1st, so as to make it correspond with the date of the issue of the half-yearly Postal Guide. Among the changes in the Bill made by the Select Committee is one in clause 44: sums remitted by money-order and unclaimed for a year will not be actually forfeited, though they will not be legally claimable. This will leave the payment to the discretion of Government, and the public will probably have no cause of complaint regarding such sums.

THE energetic Hughli River Survey staff under Commander G. Waller, the Surveyor, are now buying off a new channel which will shortly be ready for use, leading down as a gut of deep water from abreast the Anglia wreck, almost straight for Saugor Light, passing through the lower part of the old Bedford's Channel. This route will save the tortuous and somewhat uncertain navigation through the Dredge and Eden Channels, and furnish safe anchorage for cargo vessels in heavy weather; and as it will save a distance of some two or three miles of ground, heavy outward bound ships are less likely to require to anchor at Saugor to wait the tide.

THE Indian Troop Service Transport Dunera left Suez on Sunday, and may be expected to arrive at Bombay on or about the 23rd instant.

A CORRESPONDENT writes from the House of Commons: It may not be without interest to relate an anecdote of the late Sir James Stansfeld's relations with the Queen. Before he become a Cabinet Minister he had never been brought into the immediate presence of the Sovereign, and he became the Minister in attendance on the Queen with feelings of considerable embarrassment, not being quite certain of the reception that might be accorded in the Palace to a statesman of the pronounced views. The Queen immediately placed him at his ease, and gained his warm personal friendship and admiration. She asked him his views on various topics, which he explained without reserve, avowing his theoretical preference for Republicanism. The Queen said she always wished to be informed with absolute candour on public matters, but that she understood the position of a constitutional Monarch, and never either sought or desired to influence through her personal will the course of events. Sir James Stansfeld always enjoyed thoroughly his visits to the Queen, and often spoke with pleasure of the kindness and courtesy with which her Majesty invariably received him.

MEN who work with their hands all day, or who live eight hours of the twenty-four in the open air, may, if otherwise decently healthy, drink, as they may also eat, what they like in moderation; but says a writer in the "Spectator," the sedentary should exercise more discrimination. For them, at all events, fermented liquors are not in the least alike. Beyond a tablespoonful of liqueur brandy at 12s. a bottle—all cheap brandies are poisons—say once a week as a tonic, they would never touch spirits at all, for if they do they will speedily ruin their digestions besides giving themselves a tendency to renal disease. Beer, which, when it is good, is the most wholesome of all potations for the hard working and the active, is for the sedentary ruinous, as it over-stimulates the liver, and betrays its effect at once in bad temper, irritability, and a dyspeptic kind of sleepiness which takes the edge off mental power. In a long experience of the sedentary classes we have hardly ever known this axiom to fail, and believe neglect of it, or rather defiance of it, to be one considerable cause of Indian breakdowns. The "peg" is not a greater enemy of the Indian services than the iced light beer which they are accustomed to believe so harmless. Sherry, even when it is old and dry and costly, is for the sedentary as bad as beer. Why the English like this, the only positively disagreeable wine, we never could understand, but they do, and they have a habit of taking it in the very worst way, either as a "pick-me-up" between meals, or immediately after the soup, before they have swallowed any solid food. They say, we believe, that they want a fillip, but granting their right to indulge that fancy, they could find a fillip less certain to give them the heartburn and indigestion. Half a glass of old port, or still better, of that delicious wine still almost unknown in England, old white port, would give them the stimulus they wish for without producing the bad effects of sherry, that is, without disturbing their stomachs or their tempers. Port, in truth, if old and really good, is probably the healthiest, as it is the most delicious, of all wines. The common notion that the truth expressed in the old proverb "in vino venus" as specially applicable to port is, we are told, an error, founded only on the fact that the proverb is undoubtedly true as regards all excess in alcohol. Certainly, many drinkers of port have been among the straightest livers. Cheap port is, of course, bad, being almost invariably too strong, even when is is not a decoction full of astringent matter.

CURRENCY CONVERSION SCHEMES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—The Secretary of State for India is reported to have said, at Chiswick on the 26th January last:—"If you can secure anything like a stable exchange, you would have all the hoarded capital in this country waiting for employment ready to be used in developing the resources of India. Therefore I am hopeful that if it be necesssary in any way to have recourse to the establishment of a gold standard, this country could materially assist India; and I venture to say that that would do India infinitely more good than any temporary loan of a million or two to meet the expenses of the Frontier war."

The Government of India in their Despatch, dated 16th September last, had already declared:—"We are in a transition period, moving from one system to another, and the present artificial restriction is merely a temporary expedient which has for its sole object the acceleration of the movement, and which will cease to exist at the completion of the movement. Thereafter the expansion and the contraction of the currency will be left to the natural forces of the market,—that is, it will be regulated automatically by the inflow and outflow of gold." In an earlier portion of the same Despatch, it is stated:—"The measures to be taken when the transition period has passed have not been laid down, but it is probable that the Indian mints will be opened to gold, and gold coins will be made legal tender to an unlimited amount; silver rupees would also still continue to be legal tender to an unlimited amount, and the ratio between the rupee and the gold coin as legal tender would at the same time be finally settled."

Within the last few weeks much attention has been given in India to Mr. Lindsay's proposal to establish a Conversion Fund to secure that the sterling and rupee currencies shall be interchangeable at approximate rates. One of the essential principles of this particular scheme claimed by Mr. Lindsay is that it makes the rupee currency convertible into sterling money in a manner that will prevent the use of gold as money in India, his opinion being that "India is a hoarding country and if her currency is made convertible on the spot into gold bars, and these bars are always exchangeable on the spot into currency, there is a danger that the gold bars will be absorbed into hoards and kept there instead of rupees bearing extrinsic value." It is not at first sight obvious how a scheme with such an essential feature could further the ultimate introduction of a gold currency contemplated in the Government of India's Despatch already quoted, even if a Conversion Fund on Mr. Lindsay's line were established as another temporary expedient to hasten the transition to an effective gold standard, with gold made a legal tender to an unlimited amount and gold flowing to the mints for coinage at a ratio finally fixed. But a belief being stated to exist in banking and mercantile communities that a gold deposit scheme on Mr. Lindsay's or similar lines may not only become soon adopted, but may also prove successful, it may serve a useful purpose to point at a few features in this gold deposit scheme which appear to an ordinary observer to require very careful examination before the premises on which the author's conclusions are based can be accepted as sound.

Mr. Lindsay's scheme is in effect that with a prohibitive duty on silver a long term loan of £25,000,000, or without such a duty £10,00),000, should be raised in London and deposited in the India Office or the Bank of England, and that then the Government should undertake to sell to all applicants rupee drafts for sums of Rs. 15,000 and upwards for immediate money, at the rate of Is. 4 1-16d. per rupee, and sterling drafts in sums of £1,000 and upwards in exchange for rupees at the rate Is. 3 3-4d. per rupee.

The first assumption which needs notice is that the self-imposed obligation of the Iddian Government to issue rupees for gold tendered in India at the rate of Is.4d. per rupee constitutes an effective automatic check on the rupee rising in sterling exchange above Is. 4 1-4d. But that check has never yet been tested by any sustained rise of the rupee above 1s. 4d. since the mints were closed to silver in 1893. It is a check based upon an executive order which can be cancelled by a stroke of the pen, the order being embodied in a Notification dated 26th June, 1893. It is an arrangement which involves no financial risk to the public Exchequer, because any gold thus accumulated can be utilised to pay India's gold debt. It was obviously designed to prevent artificial restrictions raising the rupee above about Is. 4d. in sterling exchange. There was no undertaking to adhere to this ratio it through rehabilitation of silver or other cause not due to the Government's own action the rupee would rise much above Is. 4d. On the contrary, some fresh alteration of the ratio in such case was clearly contemplated by the Government of India, and Lord Herschell's Committee said (Report, para. 151): "It would not of course be essential to the plan that the ratio should never be fixed above Is. 4d., circumstances might arise rendering it proper and even necessary to raise the ratio; and the Indian Government might be empowered to alter it with the sanction of the Secretary of State."

Another assumption put forward is that a sterling Conversion Fund can be worked for India, because the Conversion Fund between Scotland and England was a success under the conditions which prevailed in a byegone time are not present conditions as between India and England widely different. We have a large annual gold liability, nearly one-fifth of the annual public revenue, to be paid by India. The speculation in currency, which unfortunately extend to near time bargains, is so keen and strongly organised that the operations of the gold sellers of Bombay were recently described by Mr. David Yule, a director of the Bank of Calcutta, as having practically controlled the course of Exchange during the past year." Then again, there is the presistent widening of the ratio between uncoined gold and silver provoking distrust of silver as a standard or security and inducing far-sighted persons to prefer gold, and lastly, a comparatively far larger supply of silver currency which could be made available for operating on a sterling Conversion Fund.

A third assumption is that the scheme is supported in principle by the extreme economy of gold in the Canadian system, and is analogous to the Java system, because rupees would be bought and sold much in the same way that the Netherlands Bank deals with guilders that come from Java. But here we are confronted with certain facts. Neither in Canada nor in Java had the silver currency been allowed to become depreciated as the rupee was allowed to depreciate before 1893. Approximate parity was all along maintained. To start a Conversion Fund before such depreciation has become popularly understood is one thing, and to start such a fund after such depreciation is another. The effect of popular opinion on the currency is seen in the case of the Bahamas, where the United States dollar, worth 4s. 1 3-16d, being for a time popularly overrated at 4s. 2d., American Eagles circulated freely. Moreover, Java and Holland have the same currency system, whilst in Canada the use of American silver dollars maintained at par by the exertions of the United States Government helps the economy of gold in the currency system of the Dominion, which is based on an effective gold standard.

Fourthly, Mr. Lindsay says that the only liability to be incurred (by the Government) will be the interest on the Gold Standard Reserve, and against this there will be the saving in exchange on gold obligations, the profit of 2 per cent. on the resale at Is. 4 1-16d. of the rupees purchased at Is. 3 3-4d., and the profit (50 per cent. or more at present) on the sale of new rupees. But whilst the latter profit can be realised without incurring the risk of establishing a gold Conversion Fund, and the saving in exchange on Council Bills and other gold obligations would depend upon whether the Secretary of State (whose operations must be outside the sphere of the Conversion Fund) could command the market, is it not also true that the risk in establishing such a gold Conversion Fund has been under-estimated? Must it not include the liability to raise further gold loans should the reserve be depleted by a continuous drain and the liability to repay the loans at an enhanced rupee cost should the attempt to maintain a stable ratio at about Is. 4d. meet with failure?

A contraction of the currency by melting rupees and selling the metal is described as the proper step to be taken if such a ratio is not found maintained, and it is argued that the loss of the enhanced gold value of the coined rupees would be merely temporary, as Government could again buy and coin silver.

Assuming that such a step would be expedient, and also assuming that it would reach on the redundancy of the currency sufficiently quickly to prevent a drain on the Conversion Fund is there not a fallacy in the argument that the loss from melting rupees with an enhanced gold value (as coined rupees) would be only temporary? The Indian Government receives its revenue in rupees. If x is the number of rupees melted y the metallic value and z the appreciation due to the restriction coinage, x by z is lost by melting x rupees. The Government cannot recover x by z hereafter by taking from its reserves a balance or revenue x rupees and buying silver with them for coinage. The x rupees it keeps for that purpose are already worth as much as Government would get by buying silver with them and coining the silver into rupees. In the second operation Government would be merely first removing x by z from the gold value of x rupees, and then restoring that gold value to them again. This would not bring back into the Exchequer the appreciated value of the x rupees which was lost when x rupees were melted down in the previous operation. If the Government of India received its revenue in silver metal, and not in coined rupees then the fallacy would disappear.

A fifth and very important assumption is that the balances of the Presidency Banks contain all the funds likely to be tendered for conversion into sterling money (gold), and that £16,000,000 without a prohibitive duty on silver, or £5,000,000 with such a duty, is more than India can spare at any period. At what intervals of time such a period may recur is not stated. The above assumption brings us at once upon what appears to be debateable ground. Perhaps the best form of reply to a proposition not supported by argument is to submit a counter-proposition as not less self-evident. That counter-proposition is that the funds likely to be tendered for conversion into gold at the Indian Conversion Fund Office at the rate of Is. 3-4d. per rupee (£1,000) for Rs. 15,250) would not depend upon the balances at the Presidency Banks, but upon the amount of rupees available from every source when once it became remunerative to buy gold at that rupee price. This profit would commence the moment the Conversion Fund rate of Is. 3-4d. per rupee represented a slightly cheaper price for gold than could be obtained elsewhere. The Conversion Fund rate for selling rupees (Is. 4 1-16d. per rupee) would not place any greater limit upon the funds available for taking advantage of any such profit as is abovementioned than the present currency arrangement places by refusing to issue a rupee from the mint except for Is. 4d. for gold. Past experience since 1893 has proved that the banking and mercantile houses can obtain rupees except at a pinch from other sources, which are not shown to be exhausted, at a much cheaper gold price. It is conceivable that the Indian Conversion Fund rate for selling gold for rupees might under certain circumstances be so favourable compared with the market price of gold elsewhere as to attract to India rupees from the rupee currencies of Ceylon and Mauritius and from other silver-using countries to which rupees have been exported.

The interdependence of the currency systems of different countries on one another is instanced by the convincing reasons given recently by Mr. Allan Arthur, President of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, to prove that if the Indian mints were re-opened to the free coinage of silver, yens would be shipped from Japan until Japan became denuded of yens, or until silver was maintained at a higher level. The same reasoning tends to the conclusion that if the Indian Conversion Fund rate of Is. 3 3-4d. per rupee became at any time an under-valuation in India of gold, the Conversion Fund would be drained of gold until depleted, or until a lower sterling rate per rupee became adopted by the Conversion Fund. The same result would happen if the Secretary of State, finding that he could not control the market, were forced to sell rupee Bills at a lower rate than Is. 3 3-4d. per rupee. The Council Bills would then be bought for reconversion through the Conversion Fund into sterling at Is. 3-4d. per rupee and there would at once be seen in operation the "endless chain" which the President of the United States complains of when greenbacks deplete the American gold reserve.

Here we reach what is certainly the most noticeable feature in this and similar conversion schemes, and perhaps the weakest point. No account appears to be taken of the depressing effect on sterling exchange which is exercised by Council Bills, or of the resources from which rupees are obtained without paying the mint rate of Is. 4d. of gold. Mr. Lindsay says:—"Sales of Council Bills might be continued on their present footing, although it would be desirable to ensure more competition for the Bills." It will be remembered that the prediction of Lord Herschell's Committee that the closing of the mints to silver would relieve Council Bills from the competition of silver imports has not yet been fulfilled. Mr. Lindsay's advocacy of a prohibitive duty on silver points to the continuance of this competition, though there are indications that the increased sensitiveness of the rupee to fluctuations in the gold market price of silver may ultimately check this competition.

"India must pay her debts by exports, and the Indian Government cannot in any way avoid whatever expense is necessary in order to pay them." To that extent the exports are stimulated by necessity and not by commercial requirements. How can a Government which has yearly to convert about one-fifth of its rupee revenues into sterling say, £10,000,000, reduce the expense of that conversion by establishing a fund of about £5,000,000 to £10,000,000, for the benefit of the banking and mercantile communities? If the balance to be financed by a Conversion Fund were a true trade balance between two countries which both possessed a standard currency fluctuating in foreign exchange value above or below par within specie point limits, then one could understand a limit of about 2 per cent. being fixed for the rates of conversion through such a fund. But *rupee prices in India are not gold prices.* If rupee prices were gold prices the rupee price of gold in India would not fluctuate to the extent it has done ever since the mints were closed to silver. Gold has been adopted in the mind of the Government as an ideal standard, but the silver rupee being the medium of exchange and unlimited legal tender in this country, where the native mind measures value by silver rupee, the rupee is the popular standard of value. It is a standard which still fluctuates in gold value, and its fluctuations are affected amongst other influences by—(1) the market price of gold, (2) the market price of silver, (3) the volume of the currency, (4) the volume of trade, (5) the state of the money market, (6) the balance of trade, (7) the policy of the Secretary of State as to Council Bills, (8) the time that the mints may be re-opened to silver, (9) the dealings and policy of bullion-sellers, and (10) speculation in currency.

These are influences which even with closed mints operate to increase fluctuations in the gold value in the rupee beyond specie point limits. Mr. Lindsay's scheme proposes a reactionary remedy (namely, contraction of the currency) for redundancy but ignores other causes of depreciation of the rupee in sterling exchange, and does not explain how Council Bills are to be kept out of competition with the Conversion Fund.

Whether the Secretary or State will be able continuously to sell rupee Bills at rates between Is. 4 1-16d. and Is. 3 3-4d. would depend not upon the ratio fixed for the proposed Conversion Fund but mainly upon (1) whether the profits of the export trade of India admit of such a price being paid without seriously checking exports, and (2) whether rupees can be got at a cheaper rate in exchange for gold, silver or other products of gold-using countries. To force the banks and mercantile houses to pay the rate demanded by the Secretary of State when fixed between Is. 4 1-16d. and Is. 3 3-4d., it might be necessary to tax not only silver but also gold and all other imports into India, and even then the Secretary of State's power to control the market for rupee drafts for a sustained period would have its limit. If the price of Council Bills should rise so far as to make the business of buying Indian goods unprofitable, it would no doubt, said Lord Herschell's Committee (Report, para. 123), "pro tanto" check the export trade of India, and the price of the Bills must fall." But it would only fail so far as would be necessary in order to make the trade again profitable. The Lindsay scheme assumes that the natural forces of the market which prevent the Secretary of State from fixing a rate of Is. 4 1-16d. per rupee for rupee Bills permanently can be overcome by a Conversion Fund by the device of fixing a rate of Is. 3-4d. for conversion of rupees into sterling. These forces may remain inert as long as the Conversion Fund remains unexhausted, but the question still arises, whether this would last for any time. The point to which I think attention is necessary is that the gold deposit and Conversion Fund schemes now before the public are really schemes either to raise exchange to near Is. 4d., or to keep exchange there before the currency regulations of the Government have yet succeeded for any sustained period in maintaining sterling exchange of the rupee at that point.

The conclusions I suggest may be summarised thus: It may be conceded that in a given country a gold standard can be kept effective without much gold in the currency or in reserve, if prices in that country are gold prices, also a change can be made from a silver standard to an effective gold standard with similar economy of gold, provided that it be made before any great depreciation of silver currency has taken place, causing a marked divergence between gold prices and silver prices. But if such depreciation has once been allowed to take place through delay is organising proper currency reform, prices must be restored to gold prices, and the silver currency price represent a gold value before an effective gold standard can be maintained without sufficient gold in the currency or in reserve to give public confidence, when by proper regulation of the currency (after gold is accepted as the ideal standard) prices have become gold prices for a sustained and sufficient period, then public confidence in the power and determination of the Government to uphold the gold standard may be increased, and the risk of any renewed depreciation of the restricted rupee currency may become greatly reduced by establishing a Conversion Fund. When the forces of the market have hitherto prevented a restricted rupee currency from being maintained for any sustained period at Is. 4d. the rupee, the mere establishment of a Conversion Fund will not so overcome those forces as to raise exchange to Is. 4d., or fix it there. To introduce a Conversion Fund to raise exchange instead of in order to give stability after exchange has already been raised to Is. 4d. sufficiently long to make rupee prices generally gold prices is to court disaster. A Conversion Fund may successfully follow such a change of the rupee from representing a silver price to representing a gold price. If the Conversion Fund precedes such a transition instead of following it, then there is more chance of its raising or fixing exchange. Having had the temerity to criticise the scheme of so competent an authority, let me add that local conditions (especially the conversion of gold coin into ornaments, as a matter of fashion and as a matter of security of possession, and also especially the distrust of silver and exaggerated estimation of gold and its future in relation to the rupee in a country where the gold mohur and the tola of gold had been allowed to become doubled in rupee value), strongly endorse the fears apparently shared by Mr. Lindsay that any attempt to introduce gold coins into the currency in India would be like pouring water into a sieve. It would I think be wise and sound to utilise gold to support the extrinsic value of the rupee without adding that gold to the Indian coinage. That feature in Mr. Lindsay's scheme is its greatest recommendation. If the gold thus utilised be gold which has been accumulated by tender of gold in India for rupees at the Mint rate of 7·53344 grains Troy of fine gold (Is. 4d. per rupee) when the gold standard is being already effectively maintained by the restriction of silver currency, then the objections I have urged disappear. Whether "borrowed" gold should be used after a few millions have been already thus accumulated, so as to sustain the impetus and confidence which is making the gold standard effective for a sustained period through the restriction of silver currency, and to carry the movement over temporary retarding influences, is a point open to much argument on both sides.

But who that bears in mind the actual limits of fluctuation in the gold value of the rupee since the mints were closed to silver in 1893 can now feel the least doubt that if the greater part of the effective rupee currency had been received, with the addition of less than 3-10ths of its weight to each rupee, the rupee would have been maintained at Is. 4d. (with a consequent accumulation of gold by Government) ever since 1893? Who that has observed how the rupee has begun and continued since 1893 to purchase much more than its weight in silver (at present 100 tolas for 70 rupees, to quote Mr. Lindsay's own words) can now assert that the cost to the Government of any such currency reform would have been more than the cost of re-minting? One word more as to the stringency in the money market. If the Government, as was suggested in 1894, were to issue rupees at the rate of one rupee for every Is. 4d. of silver tendered at the market price of the day, the rupee would cost to the purchaser the same as Is. 4d. of gold (if he had the gold), and the relief to the money market may be estimated from the fact mentioned recently by a member of the Bombay Chamber of Commerce that whilst 10 per cent. was charged for a loan on the security of gold it was difficult to obtain a loan at less than 2½ per cent. on the security of silver. By issuing rupees at the rate of one rupee for Is. 4d. of silver, as a security would have been made more "liquid," the strain on gold relieved, and sterling exchange improved without increasing the stringency of the money market. The silver thus bought by Government could have been utilised to increase the weight of rupees, and need not be coined into tola rupees.—Yours, &c.,

H. F. ASTON.

Satara, March 14.

PLAGUE SEARCHERS AND TEMPLES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—We shall thank you to publish this following application for the information of the general public, and we hope further to communicate with you either we should receive any reply or not from the Plague Committee to the same.—Yours, &c.,

Inhabitants of the Mahomed Khan Pakhadi or Old Nagpada.

To the Plague Committee of Bombay.

The humble petition of Raghoba Ramcrustna, the poojaree of the Temple of Luxmi Narayen, situate in the Mahomed Khan Pakhadi or Old Nagpada Road Bombay, and others, the other worshippers of the idols in the said Temple.—Respectfully Sheweth:—That, on Wednesday, the 2nd instant, several European ladies and gentlemen forming a branch of the house-to-house visitors of your committee arrived in the vicinity of the said Luxmi Narayen Temple at about 9 a.m. One of the ladies, we have since subsequently discovered to be that of a Lady Doctor, entered within the said temple on the plea of searching for persons affected with plague. Several of your petitioners who were then present objected to the lady entering the temple, and pointed out to her that such a course would desecrate the same, and assured her that as a matter of fact there was no such affected person on the premises. Your petitioners further pointed out to the said lady that there were then present as members of the said visitors and had accompanied her two Hindu police peons, who were eligible to enter upon the premises for the purposes of the search, and whose services might be availed of to make the search. One of such peons wore on his belt the inscription 326, B, ward. The lady did not comply with your request, and against our most serious remonstrances entered into the temple and desecrated the same and rendered it unfit for worship and for other religious purposes for which the same was established. The search of the lady was fruitless and no person affected with plague was found on the premises, as in fact there was none there as he had informed her before hand.

(2) Your petitioners submit that the conduct of the said lady visitor was harsh, impudent, and under the circumstances wholly unjustifiable and most provoking, and that in entering the said temple in the way she did she had abused the authority given to her by your committee, and in exercising the said powers she had acted beyond the scope and spirit of the same.

(3) By the aforesaid unlawful conduct of the said lady your petitioners and their co-religionists have suffered considerable mental affliction, and their religious sensibility has been rudely and unnecessarily disturbed. Your petitioners further state that the efficacy of the said temple as a place of worship and religion having been destroyed by desecration aforesaid, it will cost a considerable sum of money to celebrate the ceremonies and perform the religious rights necessary to purge the said temple from its desecration aforesaid and to make it available again as a place of worship and religion although not in its prestine state. Your petitioners claim from your committee sufficient amends for the damages caused to them and their co-religionists by the conduct of the said lady as your agent and employee. Your petitioners submit that by the aforesaid unlawful conduct of the said lady not only an irreparable damage has been caused to your petitioners, but the most solemn assurances of her Imperial Majesty the Empress of India, Kaiseri-i-Hind, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, given in Her Proclamation addressed to her people of India have been set at naught. Your petitioners as British subjects hope that their complaints will be listened to and that their grievances will have an impartial and a careful and a patient investigation, and that their damages (so far as practicable) will be reimbursed to them. And your petitioners will as in duty bound ever pray.

(Sd.) DEWJI BHIKAJI PEWEKAR,
SITARAM KESHAV BOLE,
and other Inhabitants of the Mahomedkhan Pakhadi or Old Nagpada.

March 16.

HIGH COURT.—APPELLATE SIDE.

(Before the Hon. Mr. JUSTICE PARSONS and the Hon. Mr. JUSTICE RANADE.)

AN IMPORTANT QUESTION REGARDING CONFESSIONS.

IMPERATRIX VS. BALYA DAGADU BHIL.

THIS was an appeal from a decision of Mr. R. J. C. Lord, Joint Sessions Judge of Ahmednagar, who, in December last, convicted the accused of dacoity and sentenced him to transportation for seven years. The Government Pleader appeared for the Crown.

In this case the accused was charged with dacoity committed at Morya Chinchore on the night of the 3rd July last. A gang of men entered the village that night and fearfully wounded two persons. The evidence that the accused was one of the dacoits was two-fold, namely the statements of two persons who professed to indentify him, and that afforded by his confession made and retracted by him before the committing magistrate. Regarding the accused's confession, the Sessions Judge remarked the rule in Imperatrix vs. Gharya (19 Bombay, 723) is that "a retracted confession, if proved to be voluntarily made can be acted upon along with the other evidence in the case. There is no rule of law that a retracted confession must be supported by independent reliable evidence, corroborating it in material particulars. The use to be made of such a confession is a matter of prudence rather than of law." So far as the confession was concerned, Mr. Lord said, this case was on all fours with the other. There also the confession was retracted before the committing magistrate. But it appeared that there was some corroboration. Here the only thing that could be twisted into a corroboration was that the accused said that the dacoits sat down and smoked on their way back after the dacoity. That would then appear to be, was the confession voluntary? Every confession, Mr. Lord remarked, was caused by a desire to ameliorate one's lot, and

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At Livery, including Syce per mensem	
Commission on Horses Bought or Sold	17 0
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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE

WEDNESDAY EVENING, MARCH 16.

THE price of Consols in London was unchanged yesterday at 111 3-4. Indian Sterling Loan declined 1-2 per cent., to 114; and 3 1-2 per cent. Rupee Securities 1-16 per cent., to £63 7-16. Paris Exchange on London advanced 1 centime to 25·33 1-2 frs.; but French Rentes remained at 103 3-4. Exchange on India at 30 days' sight was unaltered at 1s. 3 7-16d. An advance of 7-16d. made the price of Bar Silver 25 5-8d. per oz.; and in New York the metal, as well as demand Exchange on London, showed no change at 54 1-4 cents per oz. and 4·83 3-4 dollars, respectively.

The total quantity of Wheat afloat on Friday last was 2,890,000 quarters, compared with 2,920,000 quarters at the end of the previous week.

For Cawnpore Yellow Rapeseed the quotation was 36 1-2s. per 416lbs., April-May shipment to Antwerp, business done via the Canal, tone of the market easier; and for Brown Rapeseed, 34s. per 416lbs., same shipment, to Havre, Antwerp, and Dunkirk, business done via the Canal, market easier.

In the Liverpool Cotton market there was no movement in spot prices, nor in those for arrival, the previous day's level being maintained throughout. The day's sales were 8,000 bales, and the Imports 28,000 bales. The market closed quiet, Surats quiet, Arrivals steady. The Manchester market was quiet but steady.

Ready Mid.-Uplands Cotton was unchanged in New York at 6 1-8 cents per lb.; June Futures were 7 points higher at 6 cents, and September 5 points at 6·03 cents per lb. The Receipts at the U. S. Ports were 26,000 bales; and the comparison between this season's arrivals and those of 1897 and 1896 is as follows :—

	1898.	1897.	1896.
Tuesday's Receipts	26,000	15,000	14,000
Three days' do.	84,000	37,000	36,000
Since 1st Sept	7,650,000	6,039,000	4,614,000

A large business has transpired to-day in our local Cotton market. Prices are steady and unchanged. The purchases by the mills amounted to 1,850 bales, and those by Exporters to 1,800 bales; total, 3,650 bales.

The Receipts of Produce into Bombay, yesterday, were as follows :—

Cotton	10,228 bales.
Wheat	3,334 cwts.
Linseed	2,139 ,,
Rapeseed	1,444 ,,
Gingellyseed	4,611 ,,
Castorseed	1,416 ,,
Rice	8,397 ,,

FREIGHTS.—There is no change to report in this market, which is quiet with little or no business passing to-day.

EXCHANGE opened quiet but steady in tone at 1s. 3 15-16d. for Bank Telegraphic, 1s. 3 31-32d. for Demand, and 1s. 4 3-16d. for three months' sight Credits. There was no enquiry for Bank Paper, and Merchants' Bills were scarce, the market closing quiet as follows :—

Bank Bills on Demand	1s. 3 31-32d.	per Rupee
Do. Telegraphic	1s. 3 15-16d.	,,
Do. 3 months' sight	1s. 4 1-32d.	,,
Credits do.	1s. 4 3-16d.	,,
Francs do.	1·71	,,

GOVERNMENT PAPER has been a dull market, no business being reported. Quotations for 3 1-2 per Cents remain at 95 7-8 for Cash, and have advanced 1-4 per cent. for the Settlement to 96 1-2; Threes are nominally given at 88.

SHARES are quiet. Delhi and Northern India Flour Mill are Rs. 5 higher; and Bank of Bombay have advanced Rs. 2 1-2, to Rs. 1,252 1-2 per share.

G. I. P. RAILWAY.

(Open 1,491½ Miles.)

The following is the Statement of Traffic for week ending 12th March, 1898 :—

	Coaching Traffic. Receipts.	Merchandise and Mineral Traffic. Receipts.	Other Earnings (Estimated)	Total Earnings.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total — Corresponding week last Year. Open 1,491½ Miles.	83,847	5 52,160	4,772	6,43,479
	...	...	...	6,50,021
Decrease				Rs. 6,542

B. B. & C. I. RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 5th March, 1898, on 461 Miles open.

	Coaching Traffic Receipts.	Merchandise and Mineral Traffic Receipts.	Other Earnings [estimated.]	Total Earnings.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total traffic for the week	50,000	2,09,000	4,000	2,63,000
Or per mile of Railway	108	453	9	570
For previous 8 weeks of half-year.	4,53,745	14,81,717	37,293	19,71,755
Total for 9 weeks	5,02,745	16,90,717	41,293	22 34,755
Comparison. Total for corresponding week of previous year	77,893	1,87,197	2,888	2,67,978
Per mile of Ry. do.	169	406	6	581
Total to corresponding date do.	8,94,749	15,55,330	43,779	25,93,858
Decrease for the week				Rs. 4,978
Ditto, to date				,, 3,59,103

I. M. RAILWAY.

W. E. 19th February 1898.

Description.	1898.	1897.	Inc. for the week.	Dec. for the week.	Aggregate Inc.	Aggregate Dec.
Miles Open	940	940	..	..	..	...
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Passengers,	40,330	57,304	...	16,984	...	4,337
Parcels, &c.	87,809	76,301	11 308	...	21,280	...
Goods						
Other earnings	3,833	5,769	...	1,936	4,537	...
Total for week	1,31,762	1,39,374	...	7,612	...	...
Aggregate	9,83,582	9,59,102	...	..	24,480	...

RAJPUTANA-MALWA RAILWAY.

(Includes the Rajputana, Holkar, Scindia-Neemuch, Rewari-Ferozepore and Cawnpore-Achnera State Railways).

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 5th March 1898, on 1,673·93 Miles open.

	Coaching Traffic Receipts.	Merchandise and Mineral Traffic Receipts.	Other Earnings [estimated.]	Total Earnings.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total traffic for the week	84,000	2,93,800	4,000	3,84,000
Or per mile of Railway	50	177	2	229
For previous 8 weeks of half-year.	7,19,040	23,78,620	35,616	31,33,276
Total for 9 weeks	8,03,040	26,74,620	39,616	35,17,278
Comparison. Total for corresponding week of previous year	1,15,605	2,72,566	6,908	3,95,079
Per mile of Ry. do.	69	163	4	236
Total to corresponding date do.	10,60,685	24,63,203	55,201	35,79,089
Decrease for the week				Rs. 11,079
Ditto to date				,, 61,813

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

GOVERNMENT OBSERVATORY, COLABA.

Bombay, 15th March, 1898.

Means of observations taken at 6 a.m., 10 a.m., 2 p.m., 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.

Barometer corrected 32 deg. Fah	inches 29·806
Temperature of the Air	degrees 80·8
Wet Bulb Thermometer	74·9
Dew Point	72·6
Relative humidity of Air	788
Extent of cloudy sky (the whole sky clouded—10)	1·4
Maximum temperature of air (read at 8 a.m.) next day	degrees 86·3
Minimum do. do. (read at 8 a.m.)	73·8
General Directions of wind*	NW, N, E, NW, WNW, SSW, S
Movement of Wind in 24 hours*	miles 208

* From midnight to midnight.

N. A. F. MOOS,
Director, Government Observatory

THERMOMETER READINGS.

TUESDAY NIGHT.—MARCH 15.

10 p.m.	79·9

WEDNESDAY.—MARCH 16.

6 a.m.	77·5
10 a.m.	81·3
2 p.m.	84·4
4 p.m.	84·4

DOMESTIC OCCURRENCES.

[THE CHARGE FOR NOTIFYING A DOMESTIC OCCURRENCE IS TWO RUPEES. THE ANNOUNCEMENT MUST BE AUTHENTICATED.]

OTHER PRESIDENCIES.

BIRTH.

KETTLITZ—March 12, at The Cedars Tea Estate, Darjeeling, the wife of Robert Kettlitz, of a son, still-born.

MARRIAGE.

ORR—RYAN—March 10, at St Stephen's Church, Ootacamund, by the Rev C H Malden, James Peter Orr, of Bombay, to Amy Ryan, of Dodabetta, Ootacamund.

DEATHS.

EVERETT—March 11, at Wellington, George Everett, second son of the late John Everett, Esq, of Wellington.

EWART—March 6, at Kasauli, Charotta Frewin Ewart, the dearly loved wife of Captain R H Ewart, D S O, B S C.

MYERS—March 10, at the residence of his son A E Myers, Forest Ranger, Coonoor, Joseph Myers, aged 64 years.

The Bombay Gazette

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 1898.

THE important modifications in the working of plague rules in the city announced by Lord Sandhurst on Tuesday evening, are regarded in some quarters as calculated to convey the impression that Government are conceding to disorder and to a deliberate attempt to bring the trade of the city to a deadlock, what they would not concede to the representations previously addressed to them. But this criticism overlooks the fact mentioned by the Governor in his speech on Tuesday, that a change in plague organisation had been under consideration, and indeed had to some extent been made public before the riots took place. Whether the unlettered masses will understand this distinction or not is another matter, and the answer depends in no small degree upon the efforts made by their leaders and headmen to explain the position to them. It is felt in many quarters that a misunderstanding on the part of the populace as to this point may lead to fresh outbreaks of disorder, should the concessions now tentatively adopted prove unsuccessful and call for a return to more vigorous measures. If this be so, Government will no doubt be prepared to deal with the situation with a firmness and thoroughness that will be the more effective because conciliatory measures have been tried and found wanting. The success or otherwise of the new policy depends entirely upon the spirit in which the leaders of the people take up the work entrusted to them, and upon the extent to which they can carry the masses with them. Whether Government have chosen the right method of freeing the commerce of the city from the heavy aggravation of the troubles of the past two years with which it was beset by the strike is a question upon which opinions differ widely, and will do so until there has been time for the results of the new departure to be manifested. But upon one point there can be no divergence of view—and that is the absolute necessity that existed for delivering the commerce of the city from the dangers which threatened it. The strike of dock labourers and cartmen was bringing to a standstill the export and import trade of the city. The distributing agency upon which our merchandise depends was stopped; goods trains already on their way to Bombay were cancelled, and there can be no doubt that had the strike lasted a few days longer there would have been a considerable diversion of traffic, especially from the North-West Provinces, to Calcutta. Other ports would also have profited at the cost of Bombay. Meanwhile the 40,000 workpeople in idleness in our streets would have been supplemented, day by day, by mill-hands. Owing to the absence of means to convey the raw material to the mills, one after another of these factories would have been compelled to close its doors, so that in a short time the industry would have been at a complete standstill. We should thus have had fully a hundred thousand of the wage-earning classes unemployed, the greater part of whom would have no share of the funds by which it is said the strikers were sustained. The ten crores of capital expended in the mill industry would have suddenly become unproductive. Moreover, the excitement caused by the lock-out, and the privations borne by the operatives and their families would have had an injurious effect upon the already seriously reduced health of the city. Taking these potentialities into consideration it must be acknowledged that Sir George Cotton and Mr. Vincent did a great public service in calling representatives of the strikers together and telling them in the most unequivocal terms that no representation of their grievances to Government would be heard unless they returned to work. Upon receiving an undertaking from Sir George and Mr. Vincent that they would personally assist them in laying their grievances before Government, the representatives of the strikers agreed that work should be resumed, and this agreement has been faithfully carried out. Critics who describe the modifications made in the plague rules as a capitulation to the strikers, ignore the fact that the modifications were decided on in principle and partly effected before the events of last week.

AT the present time there appears to be a lull in the arms question in the Persian Gulf, and no one seems to have any idea as to what will be the next development. The traffic, as carried on in British vessels at any rate, is entirely checked at Persian ports, although large consignments are still reported to be on their way to Muscat. That the number of rifles imported into the Gulf was not overestimated in our earlier remarks on the subject, is now placed beyond the possibility of doubt by figures which have been supplied by manufacturers at home, to say nothing of the Consular reports which have been issued on the subject. It seems simply to have been a question as to who should supply the demand, English or Belgian manufacturers, and the victory—such as it is—appears to have fallen to Birmingham at any rate as far as the better qualities are concerned. There is of course a fear that the Belgians or Germans will be able to supply the Persian market, and thereby supplant the British, until the prohibition now in force is withdrawn. As regards Muscat, it is still an open port for any goods consigned direct, although as long as an effective "outward blockade" is maintained, the demand for fresh consignments is likely to be small. At the present time there is a fairly large outward trade in general goods carried on between France and Persian and Turkish (Gulf) ports, in English vessels, and the French are extremely desirous of fostering that trade by all means in their power. So much so that the Messageries Maritimes Cie., presumably at the instance of the Government, were running the fine steamer Persepolis to the Gulf until quite recently, when she was withdrawn on account of the quarantine imposed against India, which made it quite impossible to run on any given schedule. Another matter worthy of notice at the present moment, which may have a very important bearing on the future trade of the Gulf, is the endeavour the Germans are making to establish trade relations with Southern Persia. Until as recently as last autumn the Germans were not represented by a Consul in any of the Gulf ports, but in the month of November, 1897, a gentleman arrived in Bushire to take up the duties of Consul for Germany. A German firm has also established itself at that port, and its members, although not as yet doing what may be described as a flourishing trade, are at the same time doing a little in a variety of ways, and are at all events gaining valuable experience which may be of assistance to them later on. It appears highly probable that their new Consul will have an opportunity of sending many suggestions to the Associated Chambers of Commerce in Berlin for extending trade in these parts. For, as matters stand now, the arms trade which was until the other day wholly in British hands is completely paralysed by the action of the Persian Government in conjunction with our own.

We have to face the possible contingency that the French and German Governments, or either, may bring pressure to bear at Teheran to induce the Persian Government to close its eyes to the importation of arms in French or German vessels, and by our own experience we know that it will be quite enough if the Persian officials are allowed to pursue their own devices unmolested by disturbing communications from their Government. For it cannot be too often repeated that the Persian official simply lives on what he can make, and therefore the more rules and regulations that he allows to be evaded, the more money he pockets and the happier he is. Thus it stands to reason that he cannot be expected to be favourable to any regulation which forbids the importation of anything on which a double duty can be levied, and it will be very easy matter to induce him to make this new-old regulation null and void. If this should happen, and it is no use blinking the possibility, we should find ourselves simply outwitted, and all our trouble would have been worse than useless. It may be contended that the amount of trade would not yet warrant either the French or Germans running vessels out to the Gulf direct. But it must be borne in mind that the freight paid on arms and ammunition has been very high, reaching even to £7 a ton, and if the supply of these commodities is curtailed for any length of time, the rates will soon go much higher. Such a rate as this will allow a ship to be run out only half loaded, and still provide a handsome profit. Besides, it must also be remembered that all the trade which is now carried on by British vessels from the Continent, would then be carried on in foreign vessels, and although possibly it might not pay to run them frequently at first, still trade would inevitably extend in many ways and in different commodities, once it had obtained a good footing.

With regard to the trade which is now carried on with Muscat the danger is still greater, that in spite of all our precautions we shall be outwitted by the wily Arab, and that the Sultan will still benefit to the full by this lucrative traffic. The danger lies in the possibility of the importation being directed to some other centre. Now, if one takes up a book of reference and seeks the places possessed of facilities for such a trade, he will be struck by the possibilities of a place called Sur. If he takes the trouble to look Sur out upon an atlas, he will be still further struck by its extreme adaptability for the business in question. Situated about ninety miles from Muscat, on a long stretch of coast line, without another port of any consequence for many miles, completely sheltered from monsoon winds, and possessed of a large trade and many dhows, a moiety of which already fly the French flag, it is rarely, if ever, visited by a British vessel of war, and is therefore at present exempt from any interference. On the land side it is equally well calculated to be the base of a large trade, as many caravans start from it and find their way across the comparatively narrow neck of land which here separates the Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf. Thus if the trade be driven from Muscat or the Gulf, here is a place which can easily be made the base of a large land and sea trade. It is in the direct route from England to the Gulf ports, and it would not be necessary for a vessel to go more than a few miles out of her way to call there. Rifles can be smuggled in the same way that slaves were in the old days, by sea in dhows, and by land in caravans. There seems little room to doubt that some such course will be adopted if the distribution from Muscat is stopped. But to stop the export from Muscat will be very difficult. For a long time past the native vessels leaving this port have been in the habit of smuggling arms concealed under the ordinary cargo. In order to cheat the Customs authorities at their next port of call, and pay no duty, in many cases rifles have been taken to pieces, and hidden amongst bags of rice, or in the middle of bales of cotton goods. Another device is to pack the rifles in water-tight coverings, carry them near the port of discharge, and drop them overboard with a float attached to them. They are then picked up at leisure by fishermen or other boatmen deputed to perform that duty. Now, if all export is to be stopped from Muscat and other ports, it will be absolutely necessary to superintend the loading of every vessel leaving the port, and even if this could be done, the arms would simply be passed a few miles up or down the coast, and then shipped at night time. At the present time, owing to the large number recently imported there is quite a glut in the market and little or no demand, a fact which seems to point to a probability that most of the purchasers are now supplied. A still more significant fact is that many cases of caps have recently appeared on the manifests of ships trading to the Gulf, and the interpretation of this seems to be that the natives are able to make their own cartridges. Although the Government have by their action stopped the importation of arms temporarily, we shall soon find that arms are being imported in foreign vessels, and that all we have succeeded in doing is to transfer the trade from Birmingham to Belgium.

THE *Lancet* of the 25th ultimo refers at considerable length to Mr. H. M. Birdwood's paper read at the Imperial Institute on the plague in Bombay, and the report of Dr. T. S. Weir, the Health Officer, on the same visitation. The value of Mr. Birdwood's important paper receives due recognition, setting forth as it does the circumstances under which the plague made its appearance and spread in 1896-97, and the measures taken to deal with it. The medical organ concurs in the unanimous feeling of the crowded meeting that heard the paper and the suggestive discussion that followed that no praise could be too great to those who laboured under very discouraging circumstances to stop the progress of the disease in Bombay, and that amongst those deserving of honour in that regard Mr. and Mrs. Birdwood especially deserve the gratitude of the plague-stricken in this city. Sir Richard Thorne in the discussion drew attention however to the fact that the almost superhuman efforts to arrest the disease had not prevented the epidemic of 1896-97 being followed by another in 1897-98, even more serious and fatal. That he attributed to the errors of administration in previous years which permitted the erection of vast chawls from five to seven storeys high, housing from five hundred to twelve hundred people huddled together in small rooms, many of which have no access to the outer air or light. Mr. Birdwood shares the opinion of Surgeon-General Cleghorn that the overcrowding of the Bombay chawls explains the presence of the plague in Bombay, the overcrowding of these tenement houses and the general insanitary conditions being three times worse than anything to be found in London. Sir Richard Thorne quite agreed with that view. The only point in which he disagreed from Mr. Birdwood, was that anxiety must continue to remain until science suggests means of eradicating the plague bacillus. He holds that while the chawls of Bombay remain as they are science can do nothing with the bacillus. What is necessary is to destroy the conditions which enable an accidentally imported bacillus to multiply and spread. That is true doctrine, the practical teaching of which finds expression in the Bombay Improvement Scheme, initiated while the Hon'ble Mr. Birdwood was senior member of Council. The general conclusion of the *Lancet* is that the crowded localities of Bombay contain within themselves and in the soil on which they are massed the very condition which science has identified with the spread of filth diseases, and that the "new Bombay" of which Mr. Birdwood spoke should be realised without any avoidable delay.

The same paper welcomes Dr. Weir's history on last year's plague visitation as an able report, indispensable to the students of plague in the future, dealing as it does with every subject bearing on the epidemic. "Modestly hidden amongst its pages," says the reviewer, "are accounts of deeds of heroism and of uncomplaining attention to duty among all classes, both British and Asiatic, and among both men and women." The reviewer notes "the graphic pictures of the terrible scenes encountered" last year—now forgotten is the contention that plague measures are worse than plague, and that if there were none the plague would be no plague at all,—dying sick people left locked up in rooms and deserted by everyone, and of how the dead lay in the streets." The returns published this morning in another column mention that seventy-nine plague-stricken persons, "non-resident and unknown," were yesterday taken to the plague hospitals. The great majority of these victims were put out in the street when the symptoms of the disease grew serious. Some no doubt were comparative strangers in Bombay, without any settled residence, who had come to the city in the hope of finding work. What has just occurred as a protest against search for plague cases and the conveyance of the sick to hospitals, seems to be chronicled in the reviewer's precis of what happened in October 1896, when the Municipal Commissioner issued an order that plague patients were to be removed to hospital, whether they were provided with proper accommodation or not. "This order created a great deal of ill-feeling, and many of the population declared that they would leave the city forthwith. They did not or would not understand that the disease was contagious, and that the hospitals were declared to be places for providing material for experiments and torture. In fact, this portion of the report reads as if it were written of Leicester or Gloucester, or as if it embodied the views of the Society for Protection of Hospital Patients. So to avoid a great exodus that could not be prevented—and this was a very real source of danger and one only averted by the greatest care and tact—the Commissioner issued another notice, that no case would be removed to hospital where proper segregation could be carried out at home." How history repeats itself! It is as true to-day as it was eighteen months ago, that "the difficulties which the authorities have in dealing with the people as to preventive measures are enormous, for they cannot be made to understand how dangerous the disease is."

IT is generally believed that in view of the new departure in respect to house-to-house inspections and plague measures generally the Plague Committee will be shortly dissolved. If a special organisation be still required it will probably be placed under a military officer.

NOTICE is given in a "Government Gazette" (Extraordinary) to the public of Bombay that Mr. J. H. DuBoulay, I. C. S., will sit from to-day in the Town Hall on behalf of the Plague Committee for the purpose of hearing complaints and issuing passes under the Rules. Justices of the Peace are reminded that they should send in their names so as to be put on a Roster to assist Mr. DuBoulay.

THE Balance Sheet of the Credit Lyonnais for the year ending 31st December, 1897, including the amount carried forward from the previous year, shows a balance of Frs. 28,200,000 £1,128,000 at credit of Profit and Loss. From this amount the directors propose to put aside £640,000 in payment of a dividend of 8 per cent. on the paid-up capital of £8,000,000, and to place £400,000 to Reserve Fund, thereby raising this fund to £2,000,000. The balance of £88,000 will be carried forward.

AT its meeting held yesterday, the Municipal Standing Committee resolved that letter from the Municipal Commissioner, dated 10th instant, be forwarded to the Corporation with the recommendation that approval be given to the free supply of water to the Plague Detention Camp at Bandora, so long as the camp is in existence, at the rate of 20 gallons per head per day; provided that, with a view to prevent waste, the water consumed over and above that quantity shall be charged for at the rate of 6 annas per 1,000 gallons; and that all charges incurred in connection with the laying on of the water to the camp and of disconnecting the supply be paid by the authorities in charge of the camp.

THE adjourned meeting of the Senate of the Bombay University was held, yesterday afternoon, to further consider the motion of the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ranade on the subject of examinations by compartments. As it was understood that the meeting would be again adjourned on account of the function of opening the Arts Exhibition, the leading Fellows, who had taken part in the discussion of the subject, did not attend. Mr. G. Nadkarni moved that the meeting be adjourned till Tuesday next. The motion was opposed by Professor H

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

RUSSIA IN CENTRAL ASIA.

LONDON, MARCH 15.

The St. Petersburg "Novosti" urges the necessity of Russia finding an outlet for her Central Asian possessions on the Indian Ocean, and adds that the Ameer of Afghanistan cannot for ever bar the advance of civilisation.

THE CHINA QUESTION.

Mr. Curzon, replying to a question in the Commons, said that Government had heard nothing of any attempt to deprive China of any part of Manchuria.

THE TRANSVAAL AND GREAT BRITAIN.

MARCH 16.

There are strong indications that the Transvaal is prepared to profit by the British entanglements in Europe and repudiate British suzerainty.

President Kruger, speaking in the Volksraad, said that the Burghers must stand together, for nobody knew what might happen. He said he had replied to Mr. Chamberlain's despatch concerning the suzerainty question, and the reply would show that we are a Government.

OBITUARY.

The death is announced of Sir Henry Bessemer.

THE LATE LIEUT.-COL. GAINSFORD.

EXECUTION OF THE GHAZI MURDERER.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

CALCUTTA, MARCH 16.

Particulars of Lieutenant-Colonel Gainsford's murder show that the Ghazi was a retired member of the Zhob levies. He got into Gainsford's bungalow about midnight, and felled his victim in the dressing-room from behind.

He was caught, and executed this morning.

THE CALCUTTA MUNICIPAL BILL.

The Draft Calcutta Municipal Bill is of a most far reaching character, and if passed in its present form will completely revolutionize municipal administration. It makes the official Chairman independent of the Commissioners as regards his pay and allowances, and invests him with almost complete executive, powers subject to the advice of a General Committee of twelve members, four of whom are to be nominated by the local Government, four by the elected Commissioners, two by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, and one each by the Calcutta Trades Association and the Port Commission.

The members of the General Committee will be paid two gold mohurs per each meeting they attend. The general body of elected Commissioners remains much as before, but the only powers left to it are those of control of the Budget, and of fixing the rates at which the taxation is to be levied.

If ever these powers are to be exercised, they should be subject to very considerable restrictions to insure efficiency. The general body of European opinion is very strong in favour of the measure.

REPORT OF THE CALCUTTA BUILDING COMMITTEE.

The report of the Calcuttta Building Committee is also published, suggesting the formation of a trust, much on the lines proposed in Bombay for draining streets through congested areas of Calcutta; also recommending the imposition of taxes on jute and railway passengers to furnish the necessary funds.

DURBAR OF MEKRAN CHIEFS.

A FINE OF HALF-A-LAKH IMPOSED UPON THE TRIBESMEN.

Before leaving Turbat, on the 13th, Lieutenant Knox held a largely attended Durbar of Mekran Chiefs. A fine amounting to about half-a-lakh of rupees has been imposed upon the tribesmen responsible for the recent trouble, the payment to extend over three years. The collection of it will be made by the Khan of Khelat's Nazim, who is left in authority.

FRONTIER NEWS.

A Jamrud telegram of the 15th instant runs:—The traffic is now passing freely through the Khyber. A Kalifa left Jamrud for Lundi Kotal to-day, and another left Lundi Kotal for Jamrud. There was heavy rain last night, but it is now fine.

The Aka Khels are still paying up slowly, and have now only 25 more rifles to surrender to complete the 104 demanded of them as fine.

Sir James Mackay visited Lundi Kotal on Monday, returning to Peshawar the same day.

A DESERTER FINED.

POONA, MARCH 16.

Henry Walter Jones, of the Poona Punitive Police, who deserted from the Police Force from the 7th of February last, and was recently arrested in Calcutta, was placed before Mr. Plunkett, the City Magistrate, and charged under the Police Act. He pleaded guilty to the charge, but said his superior did not accept his resignation and therefore he deserted.

The Magistrate fined him Rs. 75. He was formerly in the Royal Artillery of Bombay.

CLOSING OF THE HINDU PLAGUE HOSPITAL.

The Hindu Plague Hospital has been closed from to-day. There were only two patients, and these have been transferred to the General Hospital, where there are now 59 patients under treatment.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

SUEZ, MARCH 15.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Mackay, from Calcutta, Madras, and Colombo, arrived here this morning.

The B. I. S. N. Company's steamer Rewa left here this afternoon.

LONDON, MARCH 15.

The Clan Line steamer Clan Macarthur arrived here this afternoon.

LIVERPOOL, MARCH 15.

The City Line steamer City of London left here for Bombay this evening.

SINGAPORE, MARCH 16.

The P. and O. Company's steamer Mazagon (extra) arrived here this afternoon.

COLOMBO, MARCH 16.

M M steamer Caledonia, from Australia, and P and O steamer Coromandel from China, arrived.

COMMERCIAL AND FINANCIAL NEWS.

LONDON, MARCH 15.

The Liverpool Cotton Market closed quiet. Surats quiet.

Good Bhownuggur	2 28 32.
The Manchester Market has been quiet but steady.	
2½ per cent. Consols	111 3-4
3 per cent. Rentes	103 3-4
3½ per cent. Sterling Loan	114
3½ per cent. Rupee Paper	93 7-16
Bar Silver	25 5-8

An interesting experiment in the treatment of enteric fever, which is at present being carried out at Meerut by the Medical Officer in Charge (Surgeon-Major S.J. Rennie, A.M.S.) may, to judge from the results already achieved, prove to be of the utmost importance in dealing with that awful scurge of the young British soldier in India. The treatment is simply pure olive oil given internally, and out of some twenty cases thus treated up to date there has not been a single death, a striking fact when we consider that the usual average mortality runs about 30 per cent. It is much too early yet to draw any definite conclusions, but the experiment, so far, is most promising, and we shall watch with interest its further development.

THE BOMBAY ART EXHIBITION.

FIRST NOTICE.

On Tuesday night the Bombay Art Society inaugurated their ninth exhibition with the customary conversazione, when the art loving section of this city had the first opportunity of forming their ideas of the quality of this year's exhibits as compared with those of previous seasons. There certainly have been degrees of excellence, but we may state that no one of the series has ever been dull or uninteresting. That under notice contains a collection of works that will fall little short of the best of recent years. Probably to those who have been in the habit of inspecting the works of the artists of these parts, one of the greatest pleasures connected with each succeeding exhibition is to recognise the productions of familiar names and also to seek for promising work from those who are sending their canvases for the first time. Even those who are difficult to satisfy in their searchings after novelty we venture to think will find sufficient here to enable them to pass a pleasant hour or so criticising the many works that the society have managed to gather together.

In having succeeded so well as they have the officers of the society are deserving of a word of praise, for even in normal times no small amount of work is necessary to make an exhibition such as this a success. But when we remember that for the past two years everything of a social character in this city has suffered more or less to a large extent, we must heartily congratulate the committee on having succeeded in securing such a collection of pictures as that which adorns the walls of the Secretariat for the season 1898.

We cannot proceed to describe the works on the walls until we have remarked upon the loss the society has sustained through the retirement of their late president, the Hon'ble H. Mills Birdwood. At all times an enthusiast in things appertaining to art he was well fitted for the post he so ably filled. As Bombay is well aware, he was himself an artist of talent, and many are the delightful sketches from his own easel that he has taken home to remind him of many happy leisure hours, brush in hand, spent on the hill stations. We would also congratulate the Society on having secured Mr. Justice Parsons as their new President, and feel confident that under his supervision and guidance the society will flourish and grow as it deserves to.

Our first impression of the pictures, which is confirmed on closer inspection, is that they are a good level lot of works. No one canvas seems to predominate unduly over its neighbours. The collection of oil-paintings this year perhaps hardly sustains the highest standard that has been obtained in the best of years, but taken as a collection will not loose very much in comparison. With regard to the water-colours in our opinion the best standard has been reached, for here we have some truly artistic and noticeable drawings which will appeal with success to the tastes of those who are at all artistically inclined. On the end walls of Room No. III. will be found about the best oil-paintings that are exhibited. The work of Mr. E. B. Havell, of Calcutta, may be fairly classed on the whole as the best work in the room, and specially would we mention a delightfully conceived and executed work in No. 234, "Tolly's Nullah." The whole picture is full of atmosphere and light, although perhaps a trifle cold in colour, but in it there stands nevertheless revealed that rarest of all qualities in art—style. At the opposite end of the room we notice No. 254, "The Snows at Sunrise, Darjeeling," by the same artist. The smoke of the awakening town driving up across the picture with the early sun full on the snow-capped mountains makes a charmingly composed picture. On the same screen, No. 255, a study of a head, "Tilippo," is a noteworthy piece of work, in that it is indicative of a leaning towards the Continental schools in technique. It is a charming study, and deserves special attention. No. 230, "A Hindu Temple and Bazaar, Darjeeling," although broad in treatment, is hardly perhaps as attractive as others by the same artist. The portrait of a Woman, No. 249, also by Mr. Havell, shows some beautifully delicate colouring in the face, and the treament is well adapted to the subject.

M. F. Pithawala sends some excellent portraits, the best of which in our opinion is No. 241, a Parsee Gentleman. It is a sound painting, well drawn, good in colour, and pleasing in expression. "Mr. Nusserwanji B. Seervai," No. 212, is another excellent example of Mr. Pithawala's work in portraiture; the modelling of the face, and the effect of light and shade is thoroughly good and lifelike. No. 261, portrait of a Parsee Lady, is a work also deserving of praise and goes far towards establishing Mr. Pithawala's reputation as a portrait painter. No. 217, also a portrait, although pleasing in colour, hardly attains the excellence displayed in the three former works. Mr. Pithawala is seen to advantage in No. 237, "Dictation." Here is depicted one of those themes so favoured by the Cornish School of artists, viz., a lamplight effect. A Parsee lady sits dictating to a boy, who writes on a slate. The curious yellowish light thrown by the lamp on the rede saree of the lady is a realistic piece of painting; the colouring is harmonious throughout, and the artist is, evidently thoroughly in sympathy with his subject. A full length portrait, No. 137, is the largest of this artist's exhibits; the head is a good piece of painting, but on the whole we think that this picture is about the least meritorious of Mr. Pithawala's admirable work.

Miss J. Muller exhibits some very prettily painted views from new Quay, Cornwall. The cool gray atmosphere of English coast scenery is admirably rendered in all her work. "Cornish Lions," No. 160, is a charming little picture, wherein the blue sea running in on the bright sands is capitally reproduced, the rocks are full of good colour, and we were much taken with its brilliancy and subtleness of gradations. No. 187, the same screen, is another very happy little subject to which the artist has done full justice. No. 232, rocks and seashore, also by the same artist, is greyer in tone and is nicely painted. "Towan Head, Cornwall," No. 258, is a bold piece of work, in which the rocks of the immediate foreground are are unfortunately not quite finished; but the sea breaking into the rocks is a piece of bold painting that is very creditable to the artist, and shows intimate acquaintance with the sea in its varying moods. No. 263, "The angry billows of the deep," is yet another seascape by Miss J. Muller, wherein a large sea and rocks are the subject; the transparent colour of a curling wave is well illustrated here, and this little picture is full of wind and sea. "White Horses," No. 201, by Miss B. Muller, shows a fresh breeze at sea, fairly well painted, but the effect is somewhat spoilt in our opinion by the black wave running across the middle of the picture. V. Irolli exhibits a spirited painting of the head of a "Neapolitan Fisherman," No. 233. The colour is excellent, and the modelling of the old man's face is very true to old age.

D. K. Mhatre's "An Offering" No. 219, is a large canvas upon which is depicted a Hindu woman offering fruit to the god Davi, whilst a little girl in the foreground is more interested in the flight of a pigeon close at hand. There is a lot of careful work in the figures of the woman and child, but the whole strikes one as being hard; nevertheless, it is happy in arrangement and colour. No. 225, "Friends," by Pestonji Bomanji Artist, is a wonderfully clever painting of a Hindu woman and a bird. The pose of the figure conveys an impression of conventionality to our mind, and the light on the face seems curiously spotty, but apart from this it is an excellent piece of work in colour and tone.

Another noteworthy picture is S. P. Agaskar's "The Potter," No. 238, which is a thoroughly good and well executed work. It represents a potter smoking his hukah with a boy painting a pot at his side; the surroundings are unobtrusive and quite in harmony with the subject. This is a painting that will doubtless gain much favour with the public. The same artist's head of a Marathi Girl, No. 223, is another good work, direct in method and true in colour. No. 222 shows a number of roses in a pot; the flowers are well painted, but too strong in colour, the yellow employed not being a pleasant one. Two Studies From Life, Nos. 210 and 211, are well drawn and pleasing figures. Mr. Agaskar also exhibits a portrait of a Parsee Gentleman, No. 134, which whilst hardly reaching the high standard obtained by Mr. Pithawala in the same line is nevertheless a creditable piece of work, and full of good drawing and painting. "A view of Parbul from Landscape, Matheran," by Hirjee Ghellabhai, No. 226, is a work that is worthy of mention as being fairly true to nature. Although the headland in the middle distance seems to be lacking in atmosphere and is inclined to be crude in colour in places, the picture shows promise.

"A Portait Sketch" of a little Girl, No. 220, by Miss L. M. Wood, is a broadly painted canvas that is attractive on account of the pretty subject and the simple treatment of it. Miss L. M. Wood is also responsible for two sketches from Nature in Nos. 139 and 139A, in which the colour is good.

We next notice a dramatic work by Ravi Varma, "Draupade mistakes Bheem for Duryodhur," No. 191. It represents Bheem much besmeared with blood returning home, after having killed his enemy, to receive the congratulations of his wife Draupade, but she, as well as others in the tableau, doubtless owing to his condition, does not recognise him. The figures express surprise all round, and are well drawn, but the picture seems to lack tone, and probably more effect might have been obtained from the bright sunlight streaming in at the door. "The Lotus Nymph," No. 200, represents a female figure draped in a very bright coloured thin material, which is well painted; the figure is well suggested, and we much prefer this to No. 191 by the same artist.

L. N. Taskar is responsible for some excellent copies. That of a "Satyr playing with Fowl," No. 229, is a particularly bright and careful piece of work; the figure of the boy is capitally drawn and painted. "Turkeys," No. 155, is a well executed study, the bird in the immediate foreground being natural and lifelike to a degree. No. 242, a copy of Turner's brilliant picture, The "Fighting Temeraire being towed to her last birth, is an excellent example of L. N. Taskar's powers of imitating colour, but the reflections in the water seem somewhat hard. Of L. N. Taskar's original work, "Indian Fish," No. 234A, is very fresh in colour, although perhaps hardly happy in arrangement. Of his work from the life, the best is undoubtedly No. 194; the girl preparing pan-sopari is particularly pleasant in colour and is natural in pose. Of the work of another figure artist, Raja Ravi Varma, we like best No. 165, "On a Misty Morning." It is a well painted back view of a figure with a pot on the head, the chilly damp atmosphere of early morning being well suggested and the pose of the figure easy and natural. No. 135, "The Vegetable Seller," is a pleasing study of a draped female figure, but it is a pity that the figure is to all appearances cut off the knees by the low table in front.

"The Reaper," No. 186, shows another well drawn figure, although the picture as a whole sadly lacks tone. "The Road to the Market," No. 185, also by Raja Ravi Varma, is a canvas that is very bright in effect and colour, and we should like to see more of the same type of work from this artist. R. N. Bhattacharjee exhibits a number of studies from the life; all are well drawn, but strike one as wanting in colour and tending towards monochrome, the shadows generally being somewhat black. Undoubtedly, the best canvas by this artist is No 142, "Curiosity." It represents a well drawn Purdasi turning the handle of a "penny show," whilst a boy with his eye glued to the spyhole is heartily enjoying the tamasha. It is a picture of good tone and effect. "The Hindu Widow," No. 173, is a larger canvas given up to a solitary figure in the foreground, and a few minor ones in an inner apartment. The picture tells no particular story. The artist is weak in conception, and has set himself a severe task, which, in so far as the drawing is concerned, has been realised. Nos. 176 and 189, by Miss Edith Morrison, are two boldly painted studies of Flowers, in which the colour is good and the roses broad in treatment—of the two we prefer the latter.

Another still life by S. R. Samuel, No. 153, shows Indian Fruits. It is well rendered; the colouring is remarkably good and true to nature, and there is a freshness about the whole that is pleasing. The background might perhaps have been kept a little lighter with advantage. No. 156, "After the Bath," a draped figure, is also very pleasing in colour, and the girl's saree is well painted, but that the artist can draw a better figure than this is seen in some of his watercolour and crayon work. The same artist exhibits two scenes from Gogha, Nos. 190 and 243. In the latter picture, the boats in the water, the foreshore, and the houses all resemble one another in colour, and in both of these pictures there is a strong tendency towards a monotonous colouring throughout, although, perhaps, No. 190 is less offending in this respect. Again, we have evidence that S. R. Samuel can do better, as shown in No. 206, "a study of Foliage." This is a particularly frank and pleasing piece of work, very fresh in colour, and in fact a delicate and delightful study. A. R. Sirnaik also sends an excellent study of foliage in No. 161. This is a thoroughly good piece of work, in which the gradations of tone and colour have been carefully studied with good effect. A picture by Calliandas Keshavidas, No. 188, "a Hindu mourning scene," shows a group of women all dressed in sombre hued sarees. The whole effect is generally subdued in tone and suitable to the subject—the surrounding buildings even add to the gloominess of the scene.

Another picture that is full of sentiment is E. T. de Closay's "A Victim of the Pest," No. 143. Here the artist has rendered in a very clever manner a very gruesome subject. The figure of the girl is well drawn, and nowhere in it can be found a trace of action or life. The effect of the colouring of the flesh is by no means brilliant, and yet carries with it the conviction of truth. Pathos is carried into the very corner of the picture where a dead rat may be discerned. The same artist is also represented by another very nicely drawn figure in No. 167, "A Bombay Citarine." The bright green saree is very prettily painted; although to our mind the whole figure is wanting in light and shade—it is, however, a charming conception of colour. The painting, No. 231, of a Mahomedan Girl is a very pleasing little study, good in colour and well drawn; it shows promise of good things to come from this lady. No. 180, a study of a head from a copy, shows some very good work, especially in the hand supporting the chin. Miss Quadros also exhibits a picture of "Poultry," No. 214. The cock and hen are well painted and good in colour, but the whole is marred by the weak painting of the ground. No. 266, a still life group, by the same artist, shows the light streaming through some varied coloured glass objects on to a ginger pot. The effect of the whole is pretty, and shows some very careful work. Miss H. R. Pirie sends a large canvas in No. 244, "A Lamplight effect." The artificial light is well represented on the figure of the girl, but the reflection of the figure in the mirror seems rather hard and scarcely conveys what the artist intended. Another large canvas that invites attention is No. 198, "Bhakantate in the Bath," by P. Gerhardt. It represents a nude figure sitting on the edge of a pool of very bright water, with a wonderfull blue fish emerging from it. The background of foliage is rather crude in colour, but the figure itself is nicely drawn, although wanting in solidity. A nice bright little picture is No. 224, "A Lily Pond," by H. Dutt; and J. Dutt is responsible for No. 174, a pleasing study of fish which shows good colour. No. 216, "At Nainital," by N. R. Dhurandhur, shows a picture which is bright in colour, but the effect would have been better had the distance been not so indistinct as represented; it tends to make the foreground unduly hard. Nevertheless it is a pleasing canvas. Miss Beatrice Burt exhibits two very large canvases of flower studies. Of the two we prefer No. 218, which shows a lot of careful work. "A Yard of Kittens" is also an amusing picture by the same artist.

"Alpine Lake," No. 208, by J. Peyton, is a strong picture in which light, shadow, and reflection are judiciously blended form a pleasing work. J. Bocarro exhibits two still life groups in Nos. 240 and 267, one of fruit, the other vegetables. The painting of the fruit and the reflections in the green marble table is admirable and very happy in effect. That of the vegetables is also a creditable study, but lacks the fine colour of this artist's other work. Other canvases containing fruit are contributed by C. Stephanides, Nos. 88 and 172. Both are boldly painted pictures, in which we are so much pleased with the colour and arrangement. A word of praise is certainly due to S. D. Satwalkar for two studies from the life, No. 195, "A Fakir and a Coolie." Both contain some excellent painting, which shows a certain, attempt at style which is pleasing. Another exhibitor to whose work we would draw attention is K. A. Korde, who exhibits several good paintings. No. 239, a still life group, is noticable; the fruit is true in tone, and the metal objects in the background are well rendered, the grouping being fairly good. This artist also exhibits in No. 236 a copy of some Turkies, which shows some careful work that is good in colour. We would also point to a small work by K. A. Korde, in No. 257, where he again evinces his aptitude for still life work in a well executed study of flowers tastefully grouped together.

[For report of the opening ceremony see page 6.]

NOTES FROM MAHABLESHWAR.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

MAHABLESHWAR, MARCH 14.

It is expected to be a bad season at Mahableshwar this year: this is what I am told on all sides, and by people who certainly look at things from a widely different point of view. House-owners feel sorry for themselves as they look at their empty bungalows and see but little chance of getting them off their hands. Young ladies (and we have a good sprinkling up here already) whose thoughts naturally run in the direction of the opposite sex, possible engagements, husbands, and so on seem to think their chances this year look poor, for in these troublous times leave is not likely to be easily obtained. Frisky matrons of the typical Anglo-Indian variety (I don't say mind that we have any up here) who get a say for a season from their own husbands, and see no likely prospect of flirting with anyone else begin to think they would have done wiser to stay in the plains, for after all, climate is not everything. In the face of all this there is something ironical in the fact that two bran-new dancing floors are being laid down, one at Government House, and the other at Frere Hall. These floors, I am told on the highest authority, are now nearly ready, and are polished and springy, and all that will delight the hearts of enthusiastic dancers. Yes, but how one can picture it all. The first club dance at Mahableshwar. The walls of Frere Hall lined with charming partnerless ladies. A very few, very elderly men, who don't find the season dull at all, waltz on the lovely new floor, with the smartest women in the room, well, even for the sake of these few, it is lucky that a new floor is down, for I am told that the old one was in such a bad way, that it is nothing short of a miracle that nobody went through last year, and elderly men are sometimes heavy, yes, heavy in both senses of the word, some one remarks, but I will not admit that.

"It is an ill wind that blows nobody good, and we are now reaping the benefit of the disaster of 1896, when heavy storms washed away, and destroyed all the strawberry plants. New ones were procured from Bangalore and other sources, with the satisfactory result that this year they are unusually fine, and plentiful. The climate at present is delightfully cool, and the place has that fresh washed look about it, which disappears later on. I always maintain that March is the pleasantest month of the hot-weather up here. Everything is so hushed and pea eful, one may walk or ride for miles round the hill without meeting a soul, except perhaps a few wild-looking coolies, and I believe it to be a matter of opinion, whether these wretched looking specimens of humanity, contain that very vague piece of mechanism termed a soul.

Living in this sleepy restful seclusion, "far from the madding crowd," one was shocked, and brought again face to face with life, by reading in the morning papers of the serious riots in Bombay. Doubtless the actions of Government with regard to plague measures are open to grave criticism, and whilst one is inclined to sympathise fully with the Natives, in the privations and hardships they have to undergo at the present time, one cannot but feel still more deeply for Government who, if some mistakes have been made, have also strained every nerve to do the best for the people.

A new arrival from Bombay interested us with an account of that place on Wednesday last. Whilst a deputation of influential Natives was being received at Government House for the purpose of hearing complaints regarding plague rules and regulations, and with a view to making them less stringent, the Natives in the city, considering maybe that the wheels of Government are wont to move slowly, were taking what they hoped to be a quicker method of obtaining their own way, by endeavouring with the help of sticks and stones to rid the town of Europeans. We are all looking forward to the Easter holidays, as they invariably bring a large influx of visitors to the Hill, and I shall then hope to record some of the festivities that are sure to take place.

MUNICIPAL STANDING COMMITTEE.

At the weekly meeting of the Committee held yesterday, the Hon. Dr. Bhalchandra Krishna presided, and there were also present Mr. R. H. Vincent, C.I.E., Mr. J. W. Cuffe, the Hon. Mr. Fazalbhoy Visram, C.I.E., Dr. K. N. Bahadurjee, Mr. K. M. Shroff, Dr. N. N. Katrak, Dr. Cowasjee Hormusjee, Dr. A. G. Viegas, Professor Muller, Mr. K. N. Kabrajee, and Mr. Ibrahim Rahimtulla.

MR. R. H. VINCENT, C.I.E.

The Committee recorded Government Resolution No. 1391, General Department, dated 9th instant, stating that H. E. the Governor in Council is pleased to appoint Mr. R. H. Vincent, C.I.E., to be a member of the Corporation of the Sanding Committee, vice Mr. H. G. Gell, resigned.

The Chairman greeted Mr. Vincent as he entered the Municipal Hall, remarking that they were sorry to part with him under the impression that he was not to return, but that they were very glad to welcome him back among them. (Applause.)

OYSTERS FROM TULSI LAKE.

The Committee recorded letter to the Secretary, No. 31538 dated 10th instant, from the Commissioner, reporting that he has sold to Balram Sowliram the right of removing oysters from the stone embankment on the Tulsi line between Mahim and Bandora for a period of six months, from 1st March 1898, for Rs. 18.

HEAD ANIMAL-KEEPER, VICTORIA GARDENS.

The Committee granted sanction to the acceptance of the tender of Messrs. Dosram Kesheoji and Co., the only one tender received, for the construction of quarters for the Head Animal-keeper, Victoria Gardens, at the offices estimated rates, amounting in the aggregate to Rs. 7,99?, plus its. 390 for establishment and contingencies.

SALARY OF ASSISTANT HEALTH OFFICER.

The Committee considered letter to the Secretary, No. 31526 dated 10th instant, from the Commissioner, requesting that the post of the Assistant Health Officer held by Mr. J. Leask having been abolished under the Health Department reorganization scheme no provision has been made in the Budget for 1898-99 for his salary. sanction may be given to defray Mr. Leask's salary as Assistant Health Officer from the provision of Rs. 48,000, made at page 75 of the Budget to meet the salaries of the Divisional Health Officers until the reorganization scheme comes into operation.

The Committee accorded the required sanction.

WATER FOR THE DETENTION CAMP AT BANDORA.

The Committee considered letter to the Secretary, No. 31537 dated 10th instant, from the Commissioner, forwarding letter No. 7-427, dated 9th ultimo, from the Collector of Thana (on the subject of water-supply to the detention camp at Bandora), and requesting sanction of the Committee and the Corporation to the grant of free supply of water to the camp at the rate of 20 gallons per head per day.

It was resolved that the letter, with its accompaniment, be forwarded to the Corporation with the recommendation that, under the terms of section 288 of the Municipal Act 3 of 1888, approval be given to the free supply of water to the Plague Detention Camp at Bandora, so long as the camp is in existence, at the rate of 20 gallons per head per day, provided that, with a view to prevent waste, the water consumed over and above that quantity shall be charged for at the rate of 6 annas per 1,000 gallons. That all charges incurred in connection with laying on of the water to the camp and of disconnecting the supply be paid by the authorities in charge of the camp.

STATIONS FOR PLAGUE INOCULATION.

With reference to the Commissioner's memorandum of that date, the Committee resolved, on the motion of Professor Muller, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Fazalbhoy Visram, that no alteration should be made in the stations for plague inoculation until the close of the current month. That the Commissioner be asked to use his discretion in regard to the continuance of the inoculation stations in charge of paid medical officers.

After transacting some other business, the Committee adjourned.

The Ninth Exhibition of pictures in connection with the Bombay Art Society was opened yesterday at the Secretariat by the Hon'ble Sir Charles Farran, Chief Justice, in the presence of a large gathering of ladies and gentlemen, her Excellency Lady Sandhurst, distributing the prizes. In requesting Sir Charles Farran to declare the Exhibition open, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Parsons said that the exhibits numerically exceeded all their expectations. The number of prizes was also good and the exhibits in no way artistically inferior to the last Exhibition. He referred to the calamitous circumstances prevailing in Bombay, in consequence of which the Exhibition was not held last year, and also made an allusion to the kindness of his Excellency the Governor-in-Council in lending the use of the Council Hall at some inconvenience. Unfortunately there was no other place in Bombay suitable for holding exhibitions. The financial state of the Society was satisfactory, they having got Rs. 3,000 in hand to meet the expenses of such exhibitions. He referred to the loss sustained by the Society by the retirement of Mr. Birdwood, the late President of the Association. Sir Charles Farran then made a brief but suitable speech and declared the Exhibition open.

INOCULATIONS IN BOMBAY.

The following return has been furnished by Professor Haffkine:—

The Number of people inoculated against plague in Bombay during the Epidemic of 1897 is 8,142. (This includes a certain number of residents who went to stay temporarily at Mora, Thana, Bandra, Andheri, but continued to attend their business in Bombay). In this number there were:—

Brahmins	238
Hindoos other high Castes	705
" Low Castes	1,244
Mussalmans	1,478
Parsees	3,414
Jews	81
Christians—	
Europeans	478
Indian	433
Other Nationalities	2
Total...	8,135 & 5 (unclassified) 8,142.

Prophylactic inoculations performed during the current year at the different Inoculation Stations in Bombay up to 11th March 1898.

	Inoculations	In Persons
At the Khoshrow Lodge Central Inoculation Station, by Drs de Quadros and K E Master	8381	6087
Gunbow Street Fort, by Dr R T Nariman	1264	948
Swadeshi Mill Coorla " "	94	58
French Bridge Dispensary, by Dr D J Mantri	20	15
Meher Charitable Dispensary, by Dr Merwanji Kuvarji	345	235
Sassoon Cotton Mill Byculla, by Dr H N Seervai	222	185
Girgaum "	89	64
Abdool Rehman Street, by Dr N R Umriga	14	9
Kamadipura Health Dept Stables, by Dr K S Doddiatar "	70	52
Telgu Girl's School Kamatipura, by Dr M N Kapadia "	100	100
Church Gate Street, by Dr H J Dadysett	22	19
Mandvi Medical Hall, "	7	5
Jaffer Sulleman Dispensary, by Dr Miss Benson	51	42
Bazar Gate Street, by Dr N N Katrak	214	150
Upper Mahim, by Dr N Johangir	28	21
Municipal Office, by Dr C H F Underwood	277	171
Null Bazar, by Dr D M DeSilva	6	5
Sorabji Wadia Dispensary, by Dr D R Wadia	301	176
Dharavi, by Dr A D Contractor	17	17
Tamdeo, by Dr Burjorji N Dantra	111	101
Chinch Bunder, by Dr B S Shroff	250	185
Dhobi Talao, " "	1743	1087
Veterinary College, by Dr F S H Baloray	236	214
Mahim Bazar, by Dr DeMonte	5	3
Kala Chowki, by Dr M N Bhatwadekar	31	23
Borah Bazar Street, Fort, by Dr Nusserwanji E Chubb	3	3
Grant Road, by Dr A Gnaswala	1415	985
No. 1 Pedder Road, by Dr K B Shroff	105	61
Bauleshwar Pharmacy and Bhuleshwar School, by Dr Dosabhai R Bardi	31	17
Messrs Phillips & Co, Fort, by Dr K S Engineer	344	201
Grant Road Pharmacy, by Dr A S Paymaster	117	54
Dady Agiary Street, by Dr K M Gimi	12	7
Diwan's Dispensary, by Dr K M Gimi	21	13
Takki-end Road, by Dr Dosabhai K Patel	322	218
Musjid Bunder Road, by Dr R N Ranina	271	159
Parel Suparibag, by Dr S S Batliwalla	187	123
Central Vaccination Depot, by Dr S V Kantak Staff Vaccination	1008	671
Sion, by Dr Sorabji D Desai	529	519
Ramsag Cawasji Patel, by Dr A D Mody	836	522
House to House Inoculation—		
By Dr J K Dajee	29	27
By Dr V S Trilokekar	143	66
By Dr Miss Bradley	115	98
By Dr Sorabjee C Hormusjee	1	1
By the Officers of the Laboratory	912	559
Total..	20,297	14,392

The above figures do not include inoculations performed by a certain number of medical men who have not yet reported them in detail to the Plague Research Laboratory.

Among the 14,392 persons above quoted there were:—

Brahmins	461
Jains	55
Other high caste	1,215
Low caste	1,180
Unclassified Hindoos	573
Mussalmans	5,381
Parsees	4,603
Jews	52
Europeans	53
Eurasians	27
Indians	615
Other nationality	172
Total	14,392

THE ORIGIN OF THE RIOTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "BOMBAY GAZETTE."

SIR,—I waited for three days to see whether some one from my community would reply to the very dubious measures passed upon my jamat by one of your representatives. It is time, however, that some one should speak. In the absence of any reliable data or information I cannot subscribe to the view referred in your columns that the lamentable riots of Wednesday last were premeditated, that a certain Koknee Mahomedan was responsible for much of the mischief that followed, and that the Koknee Mahomedans are involved in some way in the sad occurrences of Wednesday. In the first place, allow me to state that as a Koknee Mahomedan I do certainly protest against the wholesale allegations made against the Koknee Mahomedan jamat. As I was not asked by the Commissioner of Police to convene a meeting of my jamat nor do I know what particular person or persons were requested to do the same, I am not in a position to corrobrate or reject the statement made in your paper that the said persons transgressed the limits of the instructions given by the Commissioner of Police and called a meeting of Siddees, Julais and others. However, Sir, if your information is correct, instead of branding the good name of a whole jamat, you may better put before public the name of the person who has played such a dirty and mischievous trick, so that both the public of Bombay as well as my jamat may have the opportunity of judging for themselves. As for myself, I was invited to attend the big demonstration at Muzaffarabad by two Koknee Mahomedans and the invitations were made in the names of a few Koknee Mahomedans, I refused to attend the said meeting, firstly, because there were no written invitations stating the object of the meeting, and secondly, the invitation was so sudden that I had not enough time to consider over the matter or to consult my friends. I, however, found that in my absence from the said meeting my name was put on the committee whose function was to frame a reply to his Excellency the Governor about the death certificates. The committee consisted of more than seventy Mahomedans of the different jamats. It will thus be seen that with the exception of a certain Koknee Mahomedan or some persons acting as two colleagues who are alleged to have taken a wrong initiation in the matter, it is not proper and equitable to stigmatize the Kokanees, who form an influential portion of the Mahomedan population of Bombay.—yours, &c.

BADRUDIN ABDULLA KOOR.

GOVERNMENT NOMINEES ON THE NEW CORPORATION.

Under section 5 of the City of Bombay Municipal Act, 1888, Government have appointed the following gentlemen to be members of the Municipal Corporation of Bombay, with effect from the 1st April 1898:—Messrs H. O. Campbell, F. Edgelow, Commander T. G. R. Finny, the Hon. Mr. W. C. Hughes, Messrs. G. Lund, B. Phillips, Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, Bart., Messrs. Nowrojee Nasarwanjee Wadia, C.I.E., Byramjee Nasarwanjee Servai, Muljee Bhowanidas Barbhaya, Harkissondas Narotumdas, Kallabhai Lullubhai, Goverdhandas Khatao, the Hon. Mr. R. M. Sayani, the Hon. Mr. Fazalbhoy Visram, C.I.E., and Mr. Mirza Hussein Khan.

DRAFTS FROM ENGLAND.

The Indian Troop Service Transport Dilwara is expected here, on the 19th instant, with drafts of various regiments, consisting of 47 officers, 6 ladies, and 7 children. 3 warrant officers, 1,155 non-commissioned officers and men, 23 women, and 26 children. If the transport does not reach her moorings by 8 a.m., the debarkation will take place next day. The baggage guard and working party, strength 4 officers and 200 men, under a Field Officer, will leave the ship's side at 11 a.m., in charge of the baggage, and the remainder of the troops for shore will move into the barges at 1 p.m. and 2-30 p.m. The troops will be landed at the Sassoon Dock and conveyed to Deolali by a troop train. The train will start for Deolali at 3-5 p.m., with 7 officers, 439 men, 2 women, and 10 followers, of the "B" Battery, R. H. A., 39th and 55th Field Batteries, R. H. A., 1st Battalion Norfolk Regiment, 2nd Battalion South Lancashire Regiment, and 2nd Battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers, 2 officers and 200 non-commissioned officers and men of the 1st Battalion Hampshire Regiment, for Mooltan, 1 officer of the 2nd Battalion Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, (to join as ordered), 200 men, 1 woman, and 1 child of the 1st Battalion Wiltshire Regiment, (for Karachi), 2 officers, 1 lady, and 1 child, of the 1st Middlesex Regiment (to join as ordered); 21 men rank-and-file of the 31st Field Battery, R. A. (for Hyderabad) 2 officers, 1 lady and 6 children 8 men, 1 woman and 2 children of the 31st Field Battery, R. A. (for Karachi); 14 men, 1 woman, of No. 4 Co., Eastern Division, R. A., (for Karachi), 6 men rank-and-file, of No. 23 Co., S. D., R. A.; and 1 officer, 49 men, 2 women, and 2 children, of the 25th Co., W. D., R. A., 99 men of the Border Regiment, for Quetta, will be transhipped on board the R

ernment. On account of the riots, discussion of this subject was adjourned until to-day, but in view of the present uncertain position the debate has now been further adjourned until this day week.

BRINGING THE NEW RULES INTO OPERATION.

Some days will necessarily elapse before the new policy, sketched out by H. E. the Governor at the Town Hall on Tuesday night can be brought into play. In one respect, however, circumstances have perforce led to the discontinuance of an important feature of existing methods—the search parties. Arrangements were made at a meeting of district plague officers held on Monday at the Town Hall Staff office for a military escort to be detailed for each search party. But owing to the number of soldiers put on guard duty in the native town, the military authorities have been unable to spare other men from ordinary duty to act as guards. Hence pending the discontinuance of street guards in the Native Town the system of search parties has been in abeyance. The danger of such abeyance without any new machinery to supplant the system being brought into play is, in the belief of some observers, illustrated by the fact that yesterday's death returns have beaten the previous record—and stood as high as 358.

It is ominous that since the search parties were discontinued the mortality in the Mandvie district, which has been normal for some time past has, nearly doubled.

Another modification announced by his Excellency the Governor has been in existence, so far as the rules are concerned, for several weeks, and that is the system of granting passes to traders and persons travelling on business. Under the "Rules for Passes to Travellers leaving Bombay," promulgated by the Plague Committee on January 21st last, it was provided that "Persons leaving Bombay on business and returning within a week, if living in uninfected localities and on producing certificates of good health from the medical officers in charge of the Committee's Camp at Wari Bunder or Modikhana, will, with the approval of the Committee, be granted passes for return to Bombay within seven days." This rule has been carried out so far as the Plague Committee itself is concerned, but unfortunately the plague authorities in the mofussil have generally speaking taken no notice of these passes, so that for all practical purposes the rule has remained a dead letter. In view of the Governor's announcement on Tuesday that "bona fide" business men would be allowed to proceed without detention provided they hold certificates it is expected that the mofussil authorities will now receive instructions to accept and act upon these passes.

Yesterday a number of native gentlemen sent their names in to Government as being willing to join the royster of native gentlemen to form in rotation the committee of grievances which is to meet daily at the office of the Commissioner of Police. H. E. the Governor usually attends at the Secretariat on Tuesdays and Fridays only, but owing to the pressure of urgent work he was there during the greater part of yesterday, and held consultations with Mr. Wingate, the Plague Commissioner, regarding the details of the new policy. The Government notification given yesterday in our advertising columns stating in simple language the changes that are to be made and the object of making them, and inviting the general co-operation of the community, has been printed in English, Gujerati, Marathi, and Urdu, and distributed broadcast throughout the city.

RE-OPENING LIQUOR SHOPS.

The strikers having resumed their work and the business in the city having been restored to normal conditions, the Commissioner of Police communicated, yesterday afternoon, with the Abkari Department, suggesting that the order issued for the closing of the liquor-shops in the city be withdrawn. The wholesale liquor-shops were re opened yesterday, while all the retail liquor-shops will open to-day.

CORRECTION.

In our report of Mr. Vincent's speech at the meeting held at Messrs. Greaves, Cotton and Co.'s Office, we state that he called the riot a piece of bad temper. But we have now ascertained that those words were employed only regards the closing of the shops, and not as to the riot.

THE TRIAL OF THE RIOTERS.

THE MADANPOORA RIOT.

Yesterday morning, at the special court of inquiry, held by Mr. J. Sanders-Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, at the Byculla Prison, Fakir Mahomed Bakridin and 24 others were again charged by Superintendent Nolan with rioting and being members of an unlawful assembly. Mr. Little, Government Solicitor, prosecuted, while Mr. Sanjana, barrister-at-law, appeared on behalf of prisoners Nos. 9, 10, 14, 18 and 26. It may be mentioned that this batch originally consisted of 26 prisoners, but one of them, No. 22, named Mahomed Ali Sidick Ali, was discharged on Tuesday last for want of evidence. Witnesses were called and examined by some prisoners to prove *alibi*.

SENTENCE OF THE COURT.

The magistrate, in giving his decision, said that it appeared to him from the evidence given in the case that the mob, which created the disturbance, was moved by one common object, and that was to unite in resisting the police with violence. All the prisoners had been identified as having been present in the crowd at the time of the riot, and the evidence against some of them showed that they took the lead in the disturbance. Nos. 1, 18 and 26 were proved to have taken prominent part in the disturbance. He saw no reason to discredit or reject the evidence for the prosecution generally. It was clear that these three persons were ringleaders of the riot. With regard to the prisoners, who had called witnesses to prove *alibi*, none of them had made out their case whatever to upset the evidence that had been given against them. It appeared to him that the evidence of identification was satisfactory so far as these accused were concerned. As regards accused No. 9, the magistrate held that the evidence against him was one of mistaken identity. There was only one witness who identified No. 9, and he felt that he could not rely upon the evidence of that witness. He must, therefore, acquit him. The same witness had identified No. 5, and he would also reject his evidence in regard to that prisoner and discharge him. By acquitting these two prisoners he did not mean to suggest that the police sepoy who gave evidence in the case had given false evidence. But he thought that he had probably mistaken his men in the excitement of the moment. With regard to the other prisoners he held that they were all guilty on evidence. Referring to the prisoners Nos. 1 18, and 26, the magistrate remarked that they were the leaders of the rioters, and to his mind they were responsible for the fact of the seven persons having been shot on the spot. He must deal with them very severely. It was said that, as a sardar of his community, No. 18 was forced to take part in the disturbance But against that fact ought to be taken into consideration that there were other Sardars who had loyally stuck by the authorities and the authorities protected them. It was no excuse to say that he was forced into an act against constituted authority. He therefore, sentenced Nos. 1, 18, and 26 to two years rigorous imprisonment each, and rest of the twenty prisoners to one year's rigorous imprisonment each.

ATTACK ON A PLAGUE OFFICE.

Mahomed Hoosein, a tea shop keeper, was then charged with instigation of rioters and taking part in the riot on the 9th instant at the Falkland Road Plague Office. Mr. F. B. Windsor, an employee of the Plague Committee, deposed that two European ladies and two children were brought down by Mr. C. P. Ellis, the contact inspector, for protection from an upper floor to the plague office. A crowd had assembled, which yelled and hooted and threw stones at the windows. A pane of glass was broken. The accused incited the rioters to cut down the telephone wires, and to break down, set fire to the plague office, and to kill the Europeans there. Some witnesses having been examined to corroborate the last witness, a charge of rioting and of being a member of an unlawful assembly was framed against the accused. The case was then remanded till to-day.

AT THE COMMON JAIL.

Mr. W. Webb, Third Presidency Magistrate, held a special court yesterday morning, at 8 o'clock, in the Umarkhadi Jail.

RIOT AT BABULA TANK ROAD.

The first case that was called on for trial was against Mahomed Aba and 20 other Mahomedans, who were charged by Superintendents Brewin and Grenan with rioting at Babula Tank Road at about 1 o'clock on Wednesday last. Inspector Wilson deposed that the prisoners were arrested on Sunday last Accused Nos. 1, 2, 4, 12, 13, 14, 15, 19 and 20 were identified by the witness as having been present in the riot, while the rest of the prisoners were identified by other witnesses. Mr. Craigie, pleader, who appeared on behalf of Nos. 13, applied for bail, and the magistrate ordered all the prisoners to be released on bail of Rs. 500 in their own recognisance and a surety for the same amount.

RIOT AT GRAHAM'S NAKKA.

Hari Naroo and six others, of whom four were Mahomedans, were charged with rioting at Grahams Nakkal at 2 o'clock on the afternoon of the9th instant Constable Sullivan having been examined in respect of the disturbance, the case was adjourned to the 23rd and the accused admitted to bail in the sum of Rs. 500 each and one surety to the same amount.

RIOT AT BABULA TANK ROAD.

Bhow Raji and seven other Hindus were also charged with rioting on the Babula Tank Road at 2 p.m. on the 9th instant, Inspector Wilson deposed that the accused had assaulted the police and other officials with stones and sticks. They were arrested on Sunday. The magistrate remanded the case to the 23rd, and admitted the accused to bail in the sum of Rs, 500 each and one surety to the same amount.

RIOTING AT JAIL ROAD.

Twelve Mahomedans and three Hindus were then charged with rioting at the Jail Road at 2 o'clock on the afternoon of the 9th instant. Three Mahomedans were remanded in order to enable the police to make further investigation. The rest of the accused were enlarged on bail.

THE GRANT ROAD RIOT.

At 11-30 a.m., Mr. Slater, Chief Presidency Magistrate, proceeded to the Common Jail for the trial of 65 prisoners, who were arrested in connection with the riot that took place at Grant Road. Special accommodation had to be provided for the Press by Mr. Mackenzie, the Superintendent of the Jail, as the table for the reporters was occupied by the pleaders engaged in the case.

Noormahomed Mahomed Hoosain and 64 others were again charged by Superintendents Brewin and Sirdar Mir Abdool Alf with rioting, being members of an unlawful assembly, and causing grievous hurt to a public servant in execution of his duty. Mr. F. S. Little, Government Solicitor, prosecuted, while Mr. Bamonji Dinsha Mehta, pleader, appeared for accused No. 1, Mr. Hugh Sealy for Nos. 2 and 14, Mr. Quadros for No. 32, and Mr. Velinkar for No. 48.

Inspector Sloane deposed that he was on the north of the Nowbrook Gardens on Wednesday last at 12-30. There was there a large crowd of rioters, who were throwing stones, brandishing sticks, and shouting out maro, maro. He ordered the crowd to disperse, but instead of doing that they began to pelt stones at him. He was thereupon compelled to open his revolver upon them. Subsequently he went to the Grant Road Hospital. On the north side of the hospital a large crowd of people had assembled, whom he ordered to disperse, but they took no notice of his warning and continued pelting stones. The crowd composed of Hindus and Mahomedans. Witness identified Nos. 1, 9, 10, 12, 32, 43 and 64 as being present in the mob. These prisoners were shouting out and pelting stones, and witness was struck on several parts of his body with stones. Shortly after Inspector Good, Constable Warden, and Inspector Jolliffe came up, and tried to keep back the crowd, which was rushing against the hospital. They told the crowd to disperse, but they refused to do so. and continued to pelt stones at the police and the hospital people. A few minutes after a portion of the hospital was set on fire by the crowd. This went on till 2-15 or 2-30 p.m., when the military arrived. Until the military arrived the police had to protect the nurses in the hospital and the hospital itself. A part of the hospital was still burning. The military made a cordon round the north of the hospital and surrounded a part of the crowd which had gathered there. The crowd which was thus surrounded was throwing stones, brandishing sticks, and shouting out "maro, maro.' They surrounded 61 persons, who were amongst the prisoners, and arrested them there and then. The other four prisoners, namely Nos. 1, 2, 14, and 32, were arrested the next day. He could not speak to any specific act of the prisoners. Nos. 1 and 32 were urging on the crowd, and he saw No. 32 many a time. He was the ringleader and inciting the mob to "maro, maro" (strike, strike), and "jalao, jalao" (burn, burn.)

The witness was cross-examined by Mr. Hugh Sealy and other pleaders.

Inspector Good deposed that accused No. 1 had a big stick in his hand and calling out "maro, maro." He and the Parsi havildar kept back the crowd when the fire-brigade was engaged in putting out the fire. The persons who had assembled opposite to the hospital were about 400 in number. Accused No. 32 was seen by him brandishing his stick. He knew the accused well and could easily identify him, as he was a tall, stalwart fellow. Witness was twice hit with stones.

Constable Warden identified Nos. 2 and 14 as being present in the crowd.

Cross-examined by Mr. Sealy, witness said that the accused were at a distance of several yards from the mob and did not shout. They were arrested by him in the lane at a distance, in consequence of a general order to that effect.

Lance-Sergeant Jones, of the Shrophire Light Infantry, said he went to the Grant Road Hospital on Wednesday last, at about 2-30 p.m, with a detachment. About 500 persons had assembled there. They were throwing stones and brandishing sticks. Their common object was to assault the police and to get at the hospital. Witness had eighteen men with him, who with the assistance of the European and native police and the hospital assistants formed a cordon and arrested 61 of the prisoners before the court. Some of the rioters got off.

This closed the case for the prosecution.

TWO PRISONERS DISCHARGED.

Mr. Sealy applied, on behalf of prisoners No. 2 and 14, to discharge them as there was no evidence against them.

Mr. Little said that he would not press the charge against these two persons.

The magistrate accordingly discharged them.

STATEMENTS OF THE ACCUSED MEN.

Statements of the prisoners were then recorded. Noormahomed Mahomed Hoosein, the first prisoner, against whom there was evidence that he had incited the mob to attack the hospital, said that at the time of the occurrence he was in his house and he did not know anything about the riot. Accused No. 32, Moolla Abdool Hakim, who was alleged to have taken a prominent part in the riot, said that he was at his house the whole of Wednesday. He had told his men not to take any part in the riot. He was a man with a heavy body and could not move about freely. He was arrested the next day. Accused No. 33 stated that he was arrested before the riots took place. The rest of the accused denied the charges prefered against them and pleaded *alibi*. It took nearly three hours to record the statements of the 63 prisoners.

The court then framed the charges against the accused of rioting and being members of an unlawful assembly, to which they pleaded not guilty. Mr. Sealy, who defended accused No. 47, Balbhdra Prasad Mukranprasad, applied for permission to cross-examine Inspector Sloane. The magistrate allowed the application, and Mr. Sloane was cross-examined by Mr. Sealy. Examined by the court he said witness stated that all the accused had been surrounded by a cordon and arrested. No efforts were made on the part of any of the prisoners to extinguish the fire. There was only a little smouldering going on when they were arrested. The soldiers did not enter any of the houses to arrest accused.

Messrs. Sealy, Mehta and Velinker, pleaders, informed the court that they wished to call witnesses on behalf of their clients, and gave the names of the witnesses, which the magistrate took down in writing. The undefended accused on being questioned by the court stated that they had no witnesses to call on their behalf, with the exception of a few of them, who gave the names of their witnesses to prove *alibi*.

The further enquiry into the case was adjourned to Friday morning, at 8 o'clock, at the Common Prison.

ASSAULT ON SUB-INSPECTOR GLEN.

At the Esplanade Police Court, yesterday, Inspector Meyers charged Razoo Fazui and Karim Moolla Mahomed, both Mahomedans, before Mr. W. Webb, Presidency Magistrate, with rioting along Bhindi Bazaar Road, being members of an unlawful assembly and assaulting Sup-Inspector Glen of the Bombay Plague Committee. Mr. Kazi Kabirudin, barrister-at-law, defended hte accused. Policeman No. 1210-B in his evidence stated that he saw the accused on Wednesday afternoon in a gang of four hundred rioters who had assembled between Phull Gully and Bhindi Bazaar Road. Witness also identified them as the persons who assaulted Mr Glen. After the evidence of this witness was recorded, the case was adjourned to the 23rd instant. On the application of Mr. Kazi Kabrudin, the magistrate ordered the accused to be enlarged on bail in a sum of Rs 500 each.

THE PRESENT SITUATION.

(BY M. A. A.)

The crisis through which we have fortunately emerged on account of the firm, sympathetic, and statesman-like exposition of the new regime by H. E. the Governor has taught us beyond any possibility of doubt that the self-constituted native leaders are by no means in touch with the masses of Bombay. If the so-called leaders had taken the trouble to ascertain the grievances of the suffering poor at an early stage of the plague operations and then represented them in a body to H. E. Lord Sandhurst, whose kind and sympathetic policy and attitude towards the people have been forcibly demonstrated by his public addresses, I have not the slightest hesitation in assuming that he would have accorded the leaders a patient hearing and promptly modified the rules that worked hardship on the masses. But the leaders did not display that amount of activity and public spirit which on occasions like the present the public are justly entitled to. Instead of enthusiastically working in this direction they remained absolutely silent and allowed events to take their course. A native contributor in your Tuesday's issue has appropriately pointed out that these nominal leaders, who have an easy access to the highest Government officials, have totally failed to do justice to the masses and themselves, since it is the opinion of many that the unfortunate and deplorable riots of last Wednesday would certainly have been averted if the leaders had placed the wishes of the masses before the Government and constituted themselves as the medium of communication between the people and the officials.

The native leaders of Bombay present a striking contrast to public men of Europe in general and England in particular. In England the leaders are in constant touch with the masses. Their opinions, action, and policy are well-known to almost everyone whom they represent, whereas in Bombay the so-called leaders neither take the trouble to tell the people what views they hold nor will they condescend to ascertain what the wishes and grievances of the masses are. In brief, the leading public men of England represent the masses with whose opinions, condition, and wishes they are well-conversant, while on the contrary the bulk of the so-called native leaders of Bombay represent very few people but themselves. When once Government find that the gentlemen who profess to be leaders of their communities wield no influence with the masses, these gentlemen will loose much of their present importance. If they frankly admit to Government that they can influence only a limited number and no more, then I am persuaded that Government will like their frankness and endeavour to desire other means of doing what they want to be done. But no, these gentlemen will never make the admission, which in their opinion will involve a loss of personal prestige and possibly close the way to further honour and aggrandisement. I trust the sidelight that has been thrown on the question of native social and political leadership in these trying times will enable Government and the public to estimate these nominal leaders at their proper valuation, thereby putting an end to this sailing under false colours.

The most intricate and delicate problem of the registration of deaths was admirably solved on the 9th instant, by his Excellency the Governor, who also explained the scheme in his magnanimous and masterly address to the Justices. No doubt there has been a great deal of misunderstanding, misrepresentation, and misapprehension on this matter amongst the masses, which it is hoped will be removed by the different leaders of communities. They should give publicity to the fact that the object of these certificates is merely to ascertain the places where deaths have occurred from plague for the purpose of cleansing and disinfection, and that these measures will be taken after the disposal of the corpse. This course will not interfere in the slightest degree with the religious rites and usages of the people, but on the contrary, will render the dwellings more sanitary for the living inmates. His Excellency's wisdom in solving this most difficult problem is equalled only by the sagacity, sympathy, and magnanimity which he manifested at the meeting of the Justices in dealing with the question of the deplorable riots and the plague measures. His noble and sympethetic nature enabled him to take a just and humane view of the situation in spite of jingoism that seems to be prevailing in certain quarters. His Lordship most aptly pointed out that the Government is determined and firm and that the concessions made had no reference to the unfortunate events of last week. The generous concessions made have won for Lord Sandhurst the best thanks and admiration of humanity, and it is to be hoped that the Justices will rise to the occasion and prove themselves equal to the pleasant task of alleviating the sufferings of mankind which has been entrusted to them by the Governor.

THE MODIFICATION OF PLAGUE RULES.

(BY A NATIVE CONTRIBUTOR.)

H. E. Lord Sandhurst has, as was fully expected, come forward to the rescue of the poor, and his Excellency deserves the best thanks of the public for his praiseworthy and prompt action and his genuine desire to relieve the great hardship which the operations of rules promulgated to stamp out the plague have brought in their train. It was deemed expedient to resort to hard measures to cope with a great and terrible evil which, unfortunately, instead of being checked, was multiplied by the unsatisfactory working of the rules to which the people were utterly unaccustomed. But instead of travelling over the ground covered by my previous contributions as to the cause of hardship, I will at once come to examine how the modifications so generously agreed to by his Excellency would work. It is no longer a secret that the Police have been all along sympathising with the masses, and that Mr. R. H. Vincent, the popular and worthy Commissioner of Police, and Sardar Mir Abdul Ali have done their best to alleviate the suffering of the poor. I do not in the least exaggerate public opinion when I say that upon Mr. Vincent the natives look as their saviour, and the general opinion is that the modifications effected if carried on in consultation with Mr. Vincent will work well. The details of the policy set forth by Lord Sandhurst are not yet known, but it would not be amiss to make one or two suggestions. The total abandonement of the house-to-house inspection is not all that could be desired. The proposed plan is indeed a good one, but it will not work satisfactorily until the Justices of the Peace or the leaders of the sects or the headmen of the respective localities are held responsible in case the plague cases are concealed. Besides these influential men should be made to work in conjunction with the police, whom the people regard not with suspicion, but confidence. It is unsafe to trust to the good sense and the honesty of individuals, unless they are given to understand that in case they fail to do their duty properly, they would be brought to book.

The Justices of the Peace should be informed that if they do not discharge their duties properly, their names will be expunged from the list of Justices. Unless the influential men are held personally responsible for finding out the cases, I have my misgivings as to the satisfactory working of the plan. It should not be forgotten that the plague has run its usual period, and that it will, day by day, continue to vanish, making light the labours of the private citizens who may be engaged in the work assigned to them. As for the committee to investigate complaints the idea is a very noble one, showing the utmost desire of his Excellency to strain every nerve to thoroughly shift every complaint and do justice to the suffering masses. This is indeed laudable, but the idea is not altogether practicable. It is not safe to leave the complaints to the Committee to hear. It is assuming too much to expect that the Committee will take the trouble to go to the spot to make enquiries, and if the complaints are several their patience will be tired out and they will leave the work in disgust. If the Police Commissioner or Sardar Mir Abdul Ali is placed at the head of the Committee, I think, it is fair to assume that all the complaints will be thoroughly shifted and promptly attended to. But unless the plan of operation is revealed, it is premature to give any opinion as to its working.

The public have every confidence in the Police Commissioner and the head of the Detectives, and they have the best opportunities of knowing the public feeling and the real grievances of the people. They are, moreover, most sympathetic and good tacticians and know how to win over the people and how to lessen the burden of grievances, by extending every possible help in times of difficulties. An ocular proof of what I say is not far to seek. The Maratha Hospital for the mill-hands and labourers of this city is a most successful and model institution constructed and worked on most economical principles. People go to it readily of their own accord because every facility is there afforded to them and it is supervised by Sardar Mir Abdul Ali himself, who has spared neither time or energy, but devoted himself entirely to make it work most satisfactorily and successfully. On the whole the solution of the difficulties is a fair one but the details of the plan should be laid bare soon. The new rules of death certificates as modified by the Governor will not cause any great inconvenience much less the wounding of religious susceptibilities. All cause of complaint on the latter score is removed, thanks to the good sense of Lord Sandhurst and the way in which your journal put the public view before his Excellency. Lord Sandhurst's efforts to bring about a relaxation of the hard rules cannot be spoken of too highly. The natives will always remember him with affection and feelings of deep gratitude for what his Excellency has done for them. A wise and generous policy of conciliation will conquer more than arms can accomplish. The relaxation of quarantine rules is now all that is wished for. And I am sure that the Governor will solve this difficult problem in a satisfactory way and remove all cause of complaint. Lord Sandhurst besides having the gratitude and the loyal support of the people to back him in his arduous work, will have the satisfaction of his own conscience, which is a reward far more valuable than anything else on this earth, that he has done his level best to be of great service to the people he is called upon to govern.

DIVINE SERVICE.

CHRIST CHURCH, BYCULLA.

THURSDAY, MARCH 17.

LENTAL SERVICE.

7 p.m.—Litany and Address, by Rev. Father Bullen, S.S.J.

THE BOMBAY ART EXHIBITION.

OPENING CEREMONY.

The ninth exhibition of pictures, under the auspices of the Bombay Art Society, was opened, yesterday evening, by Sir Charles Farran, Chief Justice, in the presence of a large and fashionable assemblage of European and Native ladies and gentlemen. Her Excellency Lady Sandhurst distributed the prizes to the successful competitors. In opening the proceedings, the Hon'ble Mr. Justice Parsons, President of the Society, said :—

Few words are necessary from me on this occasion. As you see from the catalogue this Society was established in December, 1888. It was started for the promotion and encouragement of art by the exertions of gentlemen, some of whom are still amongst us. We regret, however, the absence of many and of none more than that of our late President, Mr. Birdwood, whose genial presence and power of speech was always such a feature on these occasions. We miss also the presence though we see on the walls evidence of the great artistic talent of Mr. Griffiths, our late Vice-President. Since its establishment, thanks to the generous support it has received from all communities in Bombay the Society has continued to grow and flourish, and we are now in the tenth year of our existence with a large body of subscribers and with funds in hand capable of meeting any ordinary emergency. The intention was to hold an Exhibition annually, and we did so for the firsts eight years, Last year owing to the calamitous circumstances in which we and the city were environed, we found it impossible to hold an exhibition. This year, however, though, perhaps, we are no better off, and this city is decidedly worse off, your committee determined to hold on. if only to show that we still existed. Unfortunately it had to be held much later than usual which caused difficulties, but the result you see before you. I hope you con ider that the Exhibition is a success. Numerically the exhibits have far exceeded our expectations 998 on the walls as against 993 in 1896—and we had to send 60 odd away as there was no room for them, and I am told by those who have examined them, and ought to know what artistically speaking this Exhibition is no wit inferior to any that have been before held and which have universally been acknowledged to be the best in India. Sir Charles Farran has kindly consented to open this Exhibition in the absence of our Patron H. E. Lord Sandhurst who is unable to be present. H. E. Lady Sandhurst has, however, very kindly attended and will give away the prizes. It only remains for me on behalf of the Society to tender its best thanks to H. E. the Governor of Bombay in Council for lending us these rooms, at, I know, considerable personal inconvenience. We are entirely dependent upon obtaining these rooms to hold our Exhibition. It is a sad fact that there are no other rooms in Bombay suitable for our purpose. Our first and best thanks are, therefore, due to the Government which has enabled us to hold this our Ninth Exhibition. Our next thanks are due to those who have either by way of loan or for purposes of exhibition sent us the numerous pictures you see on the walls around you. I need not mention names as they appear in our catalogue. Then I must thank those generous members of our Society who have afforded us the means of offering so many prizes at this Exhibition—no less than 58 in all. I know that the plan of giving of prizes is not regarded with universal favour, but as long as human nature is what it is, I am sure that nothing more encourages labour than the hope of reward. With rooms, pictures and prizes it may be said our Exhibition is complete but not quite The pictures have been arrayed and hung and the prizes have to be awarded. This first labour has been very onerous this year owing to the riots we were deprived of the assistance of the men of the R. A., and the aid of the students of the School of Art and of laskars from the Dockyard had to be obtained. In connection with this work I would especially thank Messrs. Greenwood and Porter 6ld and the Honorary Secretary to whose unremitting exertions even on Saturdays and Sundays, the present state of the Exhibition is due, I would also thank the Assistant Secretary, Mr. Kotwal. and Mr. Soundy for their assistance they rendered. Lastly I thank the Judges. Their names I will not mention, it might be dangerous to do so, and it is contrary to all the precedents of this Society. I unnamed though by me, these walls testify of their labours, and I hope the voice of general approval is heard on their side. I now ask Sir Charles Farran to open the Exhibition. (Applause.)

In declaring the Exhibition open, Sir Charles Farran said : I have been asked by the President and Committee of the Bombay Art Society to open this their exhibition of pictures for the year 1898. I do not know why I was selected, but I need not say that I esteem it both an honour and a pleasure to perform that task. It is not an onerous one. Two years have elapsed since the society held its last exhibition. The calamitous period through which we passed last spring deterred and prevented the Society from opening their usual gallery, and the public were so overwhelmed, with the troubles that assailed them on all sides that they felt that the society were in the right in their action. We hope that now a rift is appearing in the clouds. Great praise is due to the President and the committee and to their indefatigable secretary for their exertions in organising under conditions of extreme difficulty their annual exhibition this year, an exhibition which has now become a necessity to the artistic members of our community, affording as it does gratification to the artists in showing to the admiring public the masterworks of their art and to the public the still greater gratification of criticising or admiring them. I cannot refrain from congratulating the president and committee upon the success of their endeavours. I hold the catalogue in my hand. In point of numbers and in the interest it does not fall short of the last catalogues printed by the society, and, I believe, of any of the former catalogues. You will not expect from me, ladies and gentlemen, any remarks upon the pictures and other artistic work which you are now about visually to enjoy. I am assured by competent judges that they are on the whole above the average, and that some reflect the highest credit on the artists to whose genius created them, I do not myself possess sufficient knowledge of the technique of art to be able to offer any observations which would be useful to guide you in recognising the artistic merits of these pictures which have commended themselves to the gentlemen who have acted as judges upon this occasion. I should only be able, like many amidst you, to say that they faithfully vividly and pleasingly represent the scenes and faces and figures which they reproduce. But lest I should have been tempted to wander upon a path which is unfamiliar to me and to express my artistic ignorance in the face of judges of art so competent, as are many that I see around me, I have thought it the wiser and more prudent course to obtain from a private view, and as I have not seen the pictures I cannot possibly offer any observation upon their respective merits. You will yourselves appreciate them and will judge them each by his or her own particular standard. I have the honour to declare that this exhibition is now open and to give way to her Excellency Lady Sandhurst, who has with her usual kindness consented (metaphorically) to crown the victory in this interesting competition. (Loud Applause.)

Her Excellency Lady Sandhurst then distributed the prizes to the successful competitors whose names were read by Professor Muller. The following is a list of prize-winners :—

The Society's Gold Medals (value Rs. 109 each).—For the best Landscape in any medium, Not awarded. For the best Figure Subject in any medium, not awarded.

The Society's Silver Medals.—For the best Painting of Flowers or Still-life, in Oil-colours, C Stephanides No 250 Fruits. For the best Painting of Flowers or Still-life in Water-colours. S P Agaskar, No 89, Fruit and Wine. For the best Painting in Monochrome (any medium), Major C T Robinson R A No 344 Cabul Gate. Jallalabad. For the best pair of Sketches in Oil-colours, size not less than 12 by 8 in, L M Wood, Nos 139 and 139 A, Sunset on the Tapti, and in the beginning of the rains. For the best pair of Sketches in Water-colours size not less than 12 by 8 in, Major L. Wilson, R E, No 70, Sunrise on the Wullur Lake, and No 105, Evening Mists, For the best Drawing in Pastel, Black or Coloured Crayons, S D Satwalkar, No 318, Studies from Life. For the best Architectural Drawing, Samuel R Samuel, No 631, Swallassur Mahal Bijapore. For the best Model in any material. not awarded. For the best Photograph, printed by any process, A K Oliver No 570 On the road to Rambaugh For the best Dolhi Painting on Ivory no competition.

MONEY PRIZES.

His Excellency the Governor—For the best Picture in the Exhibition Rs 100 J W Young, No 202, Blue and White.

H H The Maharajah of Kolhapur—For the best Painting in Oil-colours by a Native of India of a Scene in the Mahabharat, Ramayana or in Maratha History (Rs 75), Ravi Varma, No 191, Dropadi mistakes Bheem for Duryodhan.

H H Martanda Varma, First Prince of Travancore—For the best Landscape in Oils by a Native of India (Rs 70), D Datt, No 224, Lilly Pond.

H H the Maharajah of Bhownagar—For the best Landicape in Water-colours (Indian subject) (Rs 100), Mifs E W Wall No 86 Upper Lakeroad Kandy. For the best Picture in Oil-colours by a Native of India (Rs 75) Pestonjee Bomonjee No 225 Friends. For the best Model in Plaster or Terra Cotta by a Native of India (Rs 75) Ramjee Days, No 685 Bust. For the best Picture in Water-colours by a Native of India (Rs 50) M F Pithawalla No 38 A study.

The Hon'ble the Chief Justice and Judges of the High Court—For the best Figure-painting in Water colours (Rs 70) Miss Abercrombie No 47 A Fakir

Some Members of the Bombay Bar—For the best Figure-painting in Oil-colours (Rs 50) Mrs G C Whitworth No 202 A Baluchi

Mr Naronjee Dwarkadas—For the best Portrait in Oil or Water-colours (Rs 100), not awarded.

Sir George Cotton—For the best Seascape in any Medium (Rs 100), Mrs Andrew Ker, No 98, "A Race to the Bandar."

Sir J Cowasjee Jehangir Readymoney—For the best Landscape in Oil-colours (Rs 50), J B Vears, No 199, "Bombay from Mowl Hill"

A Life Member of the Society—For the best Painting in Oil Water-colours, depicting the style of dress of a Parsee Lady of the present day (Rs 100) M E Dhurandhar, No 53, "Ready for the Sopara Procession."

Mr Vrijbhukandas Atmaram—For the best Sketch in Oil or Water-colous by a Native Lady, or in default drawn by any Lady (Rs 50) Miss C D Quadros, No 311, 'Back Bay.

Mr Ardesir Sorabjee Camdin—For the best Figure-painting in Oil by a Native Lady Amateur (Rs 30), Mrs J K Kabrajee, No 293, "Work." For the best Copy of a Figure-painting in Oil by a Native Lady Amateur (Rs 20) Miss K R Cama, No 272, "Once upon a time."

"The Rast Goftar"—For the best Engraving by the Photo-zinco Process The work must have been done in Bombay, and both the plate and a print from it must be shown (Rs 25), not awarded.

Mr Karim Nensey.—For the best Picture in Oil: Subject—A Pathetic Episode in the history of an Indian Lady of Ancient Times (Rs 50), no competition.

Some Pleaders of the High Court—For the best picture in any Medium of an Indian Street Scene (Rs 50), Miss Abercrombie, No 12, Lakha Bazar Simla.

Sir Jamsetjee Jejeebhoy, Bart, C S I—For the best Painting of Animal-life in Oil or Water-colours (Rs 50), Miss E W Wall, No 407 "Dhobi Bites a Day off." For the best Set of 6 Photographs other than Portraits negatives not less than 8½ by 6½ in taken and printed by any process since the date of last Exhibition by an Amateur in India (Album or Views) (Rs 50). E J Ebden, No 403, No 470, No 4730, No 475, No 620, and No 622, set of six photographs.

Sis Dinshaw Manockjee Petit.—For the best Picture in any Medium by a Native Student, either past or present of an Art School in India (Rs 60), M F Pithawalla, No 241, "A Portrait from Life." For the second best Picture in any Medium by a Native Student, either past or present of an Art School in India (Rs 40), Samuel R Samuel No 42 "Study from Life."

Mr J M Framjee Patel—For the best Picture in any Medium by a Native of India (Rs 30) not awarded,

Mr Vajeshankar Gavrishankar (in commemoration of the late Mr Gavrishankar Udeyshankar, C S I, Dewan of Bhavnagar) For the best Picture drawn by a Student of Sir J J School of Art, Bombay (Rs 30) N N Taskar, No 194, "Studies from Life." For the best Picture drawn by a Native Lady, or in default drawn by any Lady (Rs 40), Miss J C Nazir No 131 "The artist by herself."

The Chief Judge and Judge's of the Court of Small Causes—For the best Printing in Oil or Watercolours of a Shrine, Tempie or Bathing Ghaut (Rs 50) P Gerhardt, No 213 "Karli Caves."

Mr Nowrojee N Wadi, C I E—For the best Picture by a Lady who has not taken another prize (Rs 50), Miss M Straham, No 92, "A Kashmirvalley." For the best Architectural Drawing of any building in India (Rs 500), not awarded,

Mr Jamsetjee N Tata—For the best Sketch of any part of Bombay (Rs 50), Mr A K Oliver. No 90, "Racing Reflections" For the best Drawing in Black and White (Rs 50) S D Satwalker, No 318, "Studies from Life."

Mr E Wimbridge—For the best Original Drawing in Pen and Ink (Rs 50), Samuel R Samuel No. 350 "Bhuleshwar Street Bombay.

Mr Ghellebhai Haridas—For the best Picture Illustrative of Bombay Trade or Industry (Rs 50), S P Agaskar, No 298 This Potter.

The Hon'ble Seth Luchmandas CIE of Mutra—For the best Pictuse in Oil colours by a Native Lady of a House or Garden Scene or Still life. (Rs 50) not awarded.

Mr G C Whitworth I C S—For the best Picture in any Medium of a Hindu or Mussalman Building in India (Rs 50) Mrs C W Chitty No 91 OldTemple Mabhableshwar.

Mr Currimbhoy Ibrahim—For the best Picture of Fruit or Flowers, or Still-life in Water colours (Rs 50) S P Agaskar No 89, fruit and Wine.

Mr K N Kabrajee—For the best Work by a Native of India in Lithography, printed in colours (Rs. 30), no competition.

Messrs. Babajee Sakharam & Co.—For the best photograph by an Amateur (Rs. 40), A K Oliver, No 570, "On the Road the Rambaugh.

Mr H W Utoh—For the best Photograph by an Amateur of a Landscape or Seascape (Rs 50), Professor W H Sharp, No. 493, Kumbakonam.

Mr Govardhandas Gokaidas Tezpal—For the best Photograph by an Amateur of a Figure or Group of Figures or of an Animal or Group of Animals (Rs 50), E Chambers No 527, Fruit Seller.

Mr Ratanshaw Dadabhoy—For the best Photograp by an Amateur of Architecture (Rs 50), A K Oliver, No 624, "Municipal Office."

Mr Rahimtoola Kheraz—For the best set of four quarter-plate Photographs entirely the work of an Amateur (Rs 30) W B Maunder, No 622, "Set of four views,

Raja Deen Dayal and sons—For the best Photograph by a Native of India (Professional or Amateur) of a Landscape, (Prize, a Superbly Bound Album of Views of India, value Rs 100, not awarded,

Raja Ram Mohan Roy prize—For ths best Picture by an Amateur in Watercolours, showing a Scene of a Famine stricken District, or a Poor Famine stricken Family in utter Poverty (Rs 50), no competition,

Mr Jeejeebhoy M M Jeejeebhoy—For the best Photograph of any Sporting subject, such as Cycling, Cricketing, &c (Rs 30), not awarded,

Mr Jugmohandas Varjeevandas—For the best Picture by a Hindoo in Water colours of any Socio religious Hindoo Procession such as Marriage, &c, (Rs 50), no competition,

The following Exhibitors have been "Highly Commended."—

Water Colour—Miss Abercrombie, No 4; Mrs McCracken, No 14; Colonel G Strahan, R E, No 34; L de Renault, No 61; Mrs Andrew Ker, No 65; C L Wilson, R A, No 94; J M Young, No 108; and Mrs A K Oliver, No 55.

Oil-colours—M F Pithawalla, Nos 137, 237, and 261; Miss I Muller, Nos 160 and 203; E T de Closay, No 167; Miss Edith Morrison, Nos 176 and 277; E B Havell, Nos 230, 234, 249, 254 and 255.

Pen and White—Erukshaw Pestonjee, Nos 324 and 462A; Miss A S Rustomji Mistry, No 341; Sudasive Ganesh Soman, No 353; Lieut A R B Shuttleworth, No 355.

Architectural Drawings—N N Desai, No 638.

Photographs &c.—Symes Snet, Nos 477, and 488 K A Pillai, No 494; S N Bhedwar, No 507; Raja Deen

WRITERS AND READERS.

It may not be known that Sir Mountstuart Grant Duff, on leaving Parliament, made a selection of extracts from his writings and speeches on public affairs. The volume was printed for private circulation, under the title, Brief Comments on Passing Events from 4th February, 1858, to 5th October, 1881. Sir Mountstuart mentions this in the second series, about to appear, of his personal memories. His object was to enable any member of his family, who might eventually have charge of his papers, to understand the line he had taken on most public questions.

Henry George's posthumous book is to be published towards the end of March, by Messrs. Kegan Paul. It is entitled The Science of Political Economy, and is a long work, with an introduction by Mr. Henry George, junior. The writing of the volume was begun in 1891, and the author intended it to be a crowning effort of his literary life. There are five distinct sections, the titles of which roughly indicate the several contents. These titles are The Meaning of Political Economy, Confusions as to the Meaning of Wealth, The Meaning of Production, The Meaning of Distribution, and Confusions as to Money.

We hear that Mr. David Williamson has resigned the editorship of the "Windsor Magazine." He has directed this publication since 1895 with much energy and resource, and acceptance to its readers. Indeed, according to current gossip, he has had the satisfaction of seeing the magazine double its circulation within that period. Mr. Williamson's resignation will not take effect for several weeks yet. On the general subject of the magazine world, it may be noted that two recruits to its strength are now in definite preparation. One of these will come from Mr. Harmsworth's firm, the other will be under the auspices of Ian Maclaren. Then in the course of the year Mr. Dent hopes to recast the "Idler" to his liking.

A specific word may be said as to the fresh matter which will appear in the definitive edition of Byron. Eleven new poems will be contained in the first volume of the verse. Later we shall get the suppressed continuation of "Don Juan," and a considerable fragment, of singular interest and beauty, of the unfinished third part of the Deformed Transformed. As to the correspondence, not only will omitted passages be restored, but some valuable correspondence, which even Moore never saw, will be included. Then, the new Byron pictures promise to be of the utmost interest.

Mr. Edward Arnold announces a volume which the author, one Nathaniel Gubbins, entitles A Mingled Yarn. Needless to explain, Nathaniel Gubbins is the well-known sporting journalist, and when you get down to his certificate of birth, Mr. Edward Spencer Mott. He wrote entertainingly of Cakes and Ale, and other things, and now this is his autobiography—a candid record of a life full of varied experiences. We shall have an account of his schooldays and a narrative of the years he spent in India as a Lieutenant in the Queen's service. He describes existence in a cholera camp and in a Burmese gaol and no doubt he will extract humor from both subjects.

Mr. Murray is to publish a volume about Hawaii, by Miss. Krout, an American lady journalist, who stayed for some time in the delightful Island. She went there at the period when it passed from the position of a monarchy to that of a republic—a nominal republic anyhow. She tells of the events that occurred adding much personal gossip about the people who in recent years have been making Hawaiian history. Miss Krout by no means approves the official attitude which her own country has taken towards the annexation of Hawaii. She writes with the utmost frankness on President Cleveland's Message touching annexation.

Within the next few days Mr. Murray will publish the new issue of Jervis's "Students" History of France. An axiom of the book trade which is sometimes forgotten is this—that the cheapness or dearness of a volume depends upon what it is. Of this history 12,000 copies had to be sold before the expense connected with it could be met, and naturally that was a matter of years. Now the history has been brought up to date by Mr. Arthur Hassal, of Christ Church, with the assistance of Mr. F. Haverfield, of the same college. By up to date is meant the close of the Franco-German War, since subsequent French history is as yet hardly regarded as matter for the detached historian.

A work, Audubon and his Journals, which Mr. Nimmo announces, is expected to rank as the authoritative biography of the great naturalist. He was of French birth, but he settled in America, and his scientific work thus belongs to our kinsfolk. Here we shall have for the first time the complete and carefully edited text of Audubon's journals. These are being supplemented by a series of interesting notes from the pen of Dr. Elliott Coues, the American geologist. Audubon had a picturesque and engaging English style, and nobody could better describe such adventures as his pursuit of nature habitually brought him. His granddaughter, Miss Maria Audubon, supplies a monograph on him and his achievements. Then the book, which is in two volumes, has quite an assortment of pictures.

Zola's novel Paris runs to nearly 500 pages in the English edition. Messrs. Chatto publish the volume on Tuesday.

Mr. Heinemann has arranged to publish Mr. Zangwill's Dreamers of the Ghetto on March 15. It will appear simultaneously in America.

Mr. R. W. Chambers, the American novelist, has written a story of Lorraine during the Franco-German War, which Messrs. Putnam will publish here.—Early in march Messrs. Chatto will have ready Bret Harts Tales of Trail and Town, of which there are seven: and Mr. Frank Barrett's story, Was she Justified? They are preparing three-and-sixpenny editions of Mr. Harold Frederic's novels Seth's Brother's Wife and The Lawton Girl.

Miss Adeline Sergeant is publishing, through Messrs. Hurst and Blackett, a novel entitled Miss Betty's Mistake. They They also announce Merisia story by Miss. Winifred Graham. Mr. Frederic Breton has completed a romance of the sixteenth century that he will publish through Mr. Grant Richards. The plot is laid mainly in basel. Incidentally the story introduces various well-known characters—Paracelsus, Erasmus of Rotterdam, Frobenius the printer, and others. It is likely that it will be entitled True Heart.—The March number of Chapman's Magazine will contain the first instalment of a novel by Sir Walter Besant, entitled The Changeling.

Mr. Alfred Austin dedicates his volume of selections, Songs of England, to Lord Wolseley. Messrs. Macmillan will publish it at once. Mr. James Bowden will shortly have ready a second edition of Mr. Clement Shorter's Victorian Literature. Several distinguished literary men have died since the first edition was issued, three monshs ago, and the work has been brought up to date. There is also a new preface.—Dr. Garnett's work on Italian literature, in Mr. Heinemann's series of Short Histories of the Literatures of the World, will be out in a few days. Mr. Edward Arnold announces two novels, A Reputation for a Song, by Miss Maud Oxenden, and The Mermaid of Inish-Ulig, by Mr. R. W. K. Edwards.

The series of letters on the Army by Mr. H. O. Arnold-Forster, M. P., which appeared in the Times, are being revised by the author, and will be published immediately as a volume by Mr Edward Arnold.—Dan Leno's Comic Journal is the newest half-penny weekly illustrated paper. It is edited by the popular comedian, and published by Messrs. Pearson—Mr. Hubert Hall's Antiquities and Curiosities of the Exchequer will be the next volume published in the Antiquary's Library. Mr. Elliot Stock promises its publication very shortly.

Love is Enough and A Note by William Morris will be issued from the "Kelmscott" Press on March 24, William Morris's birthday. These will be the last books issued from the Press. Love is Enough will have two illustrations by Sir Edward Burne-Jones. Both books are fully subscribed for. Three handpresses and the remaining plant of the Kelmscott Press (exclusive of the type and ornaments) will be sold by private treaty.

Some time ago the letters and journals of William Cory, the author of "Ionics," were printed at the Oxford University Press for private circulation. Mr. Frowde is now about to publish some of the results of Cory's experience as a schoolmaster recorded in a MS. journal dated 1862, and described as "Hints for Eton Masters, although the little book has a much wider scope than this title would imply.

Messrs. Methuen have arranged to publish under the title of The Library of Devotion a number of masterpieces of devotional literature, edited and where newly translated by wellknown scholars. The first volume, which will be published is The Confessions of St. Augustine, translated, with introduction and notes, by Dr. Bigg, late Student of Christ Church. The second volume will be The Christian Year, of which Dr. Lock, Warden of Keble College, is the editor.

Mr. Andrew Lang has contributed to the March number of Blackwood's Magazine an article entitled The Truth about the Cardinal's Murder—the Cardinal being Beaton. Mr. W. G. Steevens writes on German Country Life, and there is a paper on the Zola trial.

Mr. William Le Queux's new novel, entitled Scribes and Pharisees, which Messrs. F. V. White and Co. have in the press, is a story of journalistic and literary London. Mr. Le Queux was for some years on the staff of "The Globe."

ROWLAND'S ODONTO or Pearl Dentifrice whitens the teeth, prevents and arrests decay, and sweetens the breath; is free from any acid or gritty ingredients, and being most beautifully perfumed, it is the most delightful tooth powder in use. Sold by Chemists and Stores. Ask for Rowland's Odonto, of 20, Hatton Garden, London, and avoid worthless and noxious imitations.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

THE s s Elton, 1,596 tons, Captain R Ramsay, arrived in harbour yesterday from Cardiff (2nd February) in ballast.

THE B I S N Co's s s Kangra, 1,478 tons, Captain H J Willsher, which arrived in harbour on Tuesday evening from Calcutta (8th February) via coast ports, and Colombo, brought a general cargo and 20 deck passengers.

THE B I S N Co.s s s Khandalla, 1,318 tons, Captain T M Whitehead, with sail to-day for the Persian Gulf, via Karachi with a general cargo and the following passengers:—Mr C W White, Mr Alladin Thawar, Mr Mirza Mahomed, one native officer, Messrs Ahmed Abdoola Dawood Abdoola, Sulleman bin Ahmed, one Hindu, lady, Mr Mergan bin Alli and 65 deck.

THE German East Africa Line s s Setos, 1,152 tons, Captain F. Jacobs, sailed yesterday for Zanzibar, &c., with a general cargo, and the following passengers:—Mr H C Semedo, Mrs D E Martins, and daughter, Mr Cowasjee Manockjee Dalal, Mrs D N Cama, Mrs G Peters and Son, Mr A X A Rodrigues, Messrs F X DaCosta, C Thomas, J A F de Souza, and J M Fernandes, Mr Sulleman Hassam and 48 deck.

VESSELS IN DOCKS.—MARCH 16.

PRINCE'S DOCK.

Shd.	Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.*	Agents.
A	Sirdhana	2074	Collins	N F	16-3	M M & Co
B	Othello	3327	Rogers	N F		F M & Co
C	Drachenfels	1574	Klinewig	Karachi	18-3	Ker & Co
D	Clan Macrae	1694	Elliott	N F		F Muir & Co
F	Okia	3436	Peck	N F		M M & Co
G	Bq Pawady	458	Junghans	Mauritius		V E & Co
H	& J Setos	1153	Jacobs	Zanzibar	16-3	F Heyer
K	Ponani	552	Ahmed	N F		S & Co
L	Bahaduri	829	Adum	N F		S & Co
M	Matsuyama Maru	1959	Niru	Kobe	N Y	Kaisha
N	Den of Airlie	2275	Singer	Karachi	18-	Ho Co
O	Naseri	912	Raffin	Jeddah		B & F S N Co
P	Zampa	1526	Chisholm	Hamburg		Bombay Co
Q	Purulia	993	Rickford	Zanzibar		M M & Co

HARBOUR WALL.

Mahanadi	547	Fakeer	N F		14-3	S & Co

VICTORIA DOCK.

Shd.	Vessels.	Ton.	Capt.	Destination.	Date.	Agents.
2	Branksome Hall	2555	Hood	Karachi		E Bates & Co
3	Aphrodite	2568	Meagan	Dunkirk	22-3	W & A G & Co
4	Singapore	2438	Pizzarello	Genoa	31-3	F Baldocino
5	Carthage	2893	London	Aden	19-3	P & O S N Co
6	Candia	4195	Wright	China		P & O Co
8	Blue Cross	1994	Storm	Liverpool		Bombay Co
9	Vindobona	2839	Androvich	Trieste		A L S N Co
10	Calodonia	3529	Andrews	London	26-3	P & O S N Co
13	Iran	4066	Hughes	Marseilles		E B & Co
15	Brindisi	1226	Watkins			P & O S N Co
16	Courland	760	Lenton	Natal	25-3	D A & Co

HARBOUR WALL.

Dumra	762	Russell	Karachi	19-3	M M & Co	

MERREWETHER DRY DOCK.

Sabarmati	1015 tons gross	S & Co
Shiravati	262 tons gross	S & Co

*Probable date of departure.

Time Ball drops at Prince's Dock at Noon, or Greenwich meantime, 7h. 8m. 44·3s.

The Time Ball over the Clock Tower at the Bombay Castle continues to be dropped regularly at 1 p.m. of Colaba mean time, or 8h. 8m. 44·30 of Greenwich meantime.

ARRIVAL.

Mar.	Vessel.	Commander.	From.
16	Elton s	Ramsay	Cardiff, Feb 2

DEPARTURES.

Mar.	Vessel.	Commander.	Destination.
16	Purulia s	Rickford	Zanzibar, &c
	Amphitrite s	Costanzo	Trieste
	Setos s	Jacobs	Zanzibar

The steamer Khandalla, Captain Whitehead, obtained her port-clearance yesterday for the Persian Gulf and Karachi.

The steamer Canara, entered for loading yesterday for Zanzibar, &c.

CALCUTTA.

March

ARRIVALS.

9	Orion s	Gherzmann	Bombay, Feb 24
	Algeria s	Craig	Liverpool, Feb 5
	Gantock Rock sp	Laurie	New York, Oct 18
10	Malda s	Nash	Rangoon, March 7
	Goorkha s	Robinson	London, Feb 4
	Invernore bq	Hutton	Cardiff, Aug 18

DEPARTURES.

March 9.—Steamers Leitrim, Goloonda, City of Cambridge, Sahara, Rajpootana and Pindari, and ship Vordigern.

MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS.—MARCH 12.

Campbell, Col, Bengal, R A, on leave, from Naini Tal
Birch, Capt, Ms, R A, on leave, from Trimulgherry

MARCH 13.

Beatty, Lt, Punjab, 9th B L, from medical certificate, from Poona

DEPARTURES.—MARCH 12.

Dunally, Capt, Bengal, 5th M I, on leave, to England
Dalrymple, Major, Bengal Staff, on retirement, to England
Taylor, Major, Bengal, R A, on leave, to Allahabad
Lynch, Capt, Bengal, 2nd S Lanc, on duty, to Africa
Campbell, Col, Bengal, R A, on leave, to England
Cunningham, Lt Col, Punjab, 1st P C, on leave, to England
Rankin, Capt, Punjab, 24th P I, on leave, to England
Metcalfe, Major, Punjab, on leave, to England
Manifold, Surgn-Capt, Punjab, I M S, on leave, to England
Liddell, Capt, Punjab, R E, on leave, to England
Ballantyne, Lt, Bo, 19th B L, on furlough, to England
DeLisle, Major, Bo, on leave, to England
Conran, Major, Bo, 1st E York, on duty, to Ahmednagar
Graham, Lt, Bo, 2nd H L I, on leave, to England
Neilson, Capt, Bo, 2nd H L I, on leave, to England

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER RIFLES.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY COLONEL R. S. BROWN V. D., COMMANDING B. V. R.

Bombay, 17th March, 1898.

1. The Regiment will parade on Saturday next the 19th instant, at 5 p.m. at the Gymkhana end of the parade ground, for Commanding Officer's parade. Dress—Review order, Khaki.

2. The class of instruction for proficiency certificates will assemble at Head-quarters at 5-30 p.m. on Friday the 18th instant. Members attending should bring their rifles, etc. Dress—Any.

3. Targets will be ready from 7 to 8 a.m. to-morrow (Friday) the 18th instant at the Revolver Range of the 21st Bombay Infantry (Marine Lines) for all Officers and Sergeants who may wish to practice.

By Order,
C. MOSS, Captain,
Adjutant, B. V. R.

BOMBAY VOLUNTEER ARTILLERY.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS BY MAJOR G. W. ROUGHTON, A.D.C., COMMANDING B. V. A.

Bombay, 17th March, 1898.

1. There will be Squard drill at both Head-quarters to-day (Thursday), and Friday, at 8-30 p.m.

2. It is notified for information that Sunday the 20th inst. will be the last day available for the Carter Cup.

3. Drill and Guard Mounting Competitions will take place at the Town Hall Compound on Saturday next the 19th inst. Fall in at 5 p.m. sharp.

Dress drill order with arms. Putties to be worn.

4. The following members having joined are taken on the strength of the Corps and posted as under—No. 607 Gunner W H Peyton, No. 608 Gunner J H Gray, and No. 609 Gunner A L Silkirk, No. 1 Company, No. 2 Sub-division.

By Order
A. J. PEILE, Lieut, R.A.,
Adjutant B. V. A.

BANK OF BENGAL.

THE following is the Statement of the Affairs of the Bank of Bengal for the week ending 7th March, 1898, as compared with the Statement of 1st March, 1898:—

LIABILITIES.	March 1. Rs.	A.	P.	March 7. Rs.	A.	P.
Capital paid up	2,50,00,000	0	0	2,00,00,000	0	0
Reserve Fund	83,50,000	0	0	83,50,000	0	0
Public Deposits, &c.	1,49,82,759	0	9	1,70,20,398	0	11
Other Deposits, &c.	4,44,66,665	6	0	4,27,57,636	7	3
Bank Post Bills, &c.	5,58,955	9	9	4,44,075	0	3
Sundries	21,15,132	10	10	21,53,508	0	5
	Rs. 9,04,73,512	11	4	9,07,28,617	8	10

ASSETS.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Government Securities	30,58,558	0	0	29,45,951	0	0
Other authorised Investments	73,21,840	0	0	73,15,840	0	0
Loans on Govt. and other Authorised Securities	2,14,13,194	11	5	2,15,59,434	8	7
Accounts of Credit &c.	2,46,38,473	2	11	2,45,97,283	15	0
Bills Discounted, &c.	1,26,86,763	3	5	1,25,50,866	12	1
Balances with other Banks	10,44,736	5	9	8,63,338	4	11
Bullion	2,908	9	0	2,740	11	0
Dead Stock	13,15,199	0	2	13,15,338	5	2
Pampe	9,935	14	3	10,004	7	3
Sundries	12,91,899	3	10	12,87,841	3	3
Cash, &c., at Head Office	80,77,024	13	0	77,76,927	11	9
Do. at Branches	93,13,470	11	7	1,05,02,814	9	10
	Rs. 9,04,73,512	11	4	9,07,28,617	8	10

The following is the Bank's Memorandum of Liabilities and Assets up to 7th March 1898.

LIABILITIES.	Rs.	
Treasury Balance at Head Office	5,54,912	Inc.
Do. at Branches	13,2,697	do.
Other Deposits	17,09,029	Dec.
Post Bills	1,11,880	do.
ASSETS.		
Bank's Investments	1,18,577	Dec.
Loans	1,46,240	Inc.
Accounts of Credit	40,784	Dec.
Mercantile Bills	1,35,697	do.
Cash at Head Office	3,00,099	do.
Cash at Branches	8,89,344	Inc.

Fortify the System against Disease

PURE BLOOD SECURES GOOD HEALTH.

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Estd. since 1829.

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FOR INFANTS, INVALIDS, & THE AGED.

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"After a lengthened experience of Foods, both at home and in India, I consider 'Benger's Food' incomparably superior to any I have ever prescribed."

An editorial in the INDIAN MEDICAL RECORD, of October 16th, 1897, says:—
"For many years in India, a large number of enterprising firms in England and Europe have been flooding the market with so-called Foods for Infants and Children. It is remarkable to note how one after another these various brands of doubtful virtue have ceased to appear. Time and the public conscience have pronounced their verdict—and to-day we find BENGER almost alone. The admirable combination of the nutritive elements is so perfectly brought about as to render their digestion a matter of pleasant facility for the weakest man or the frailest infant. To-day the medical profession of India finds it cannot do otherwise than stand by a friend who has proved his only criterion to public support, namely REAL WORTH."

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For the Health and Beauty of the SKIN. "Lanoline" Toilet Soap 6 PER TABLET. THREE IN A BOX 1/6

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The effect of this Standard Phosphoric Remedy in Nervous Debility, and its kindred Evils is immediate and permanent, all the Miserable Feelings and Distressing Symptoms disappearing with a rapidity that is really marvellous.

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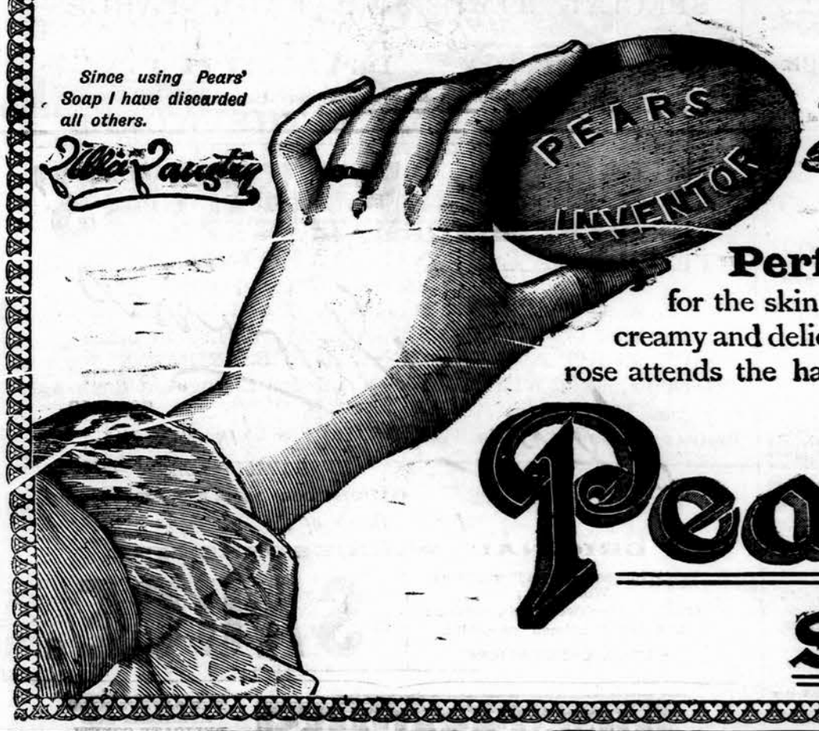

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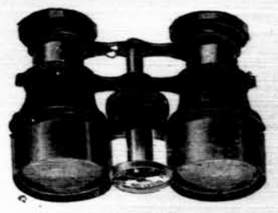

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